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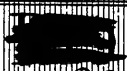
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BULLETIN OF THE  
Pan American  
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BUILDING A DAM

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

L. S. ROWE, *Director General*      PEDRO DE ALBA, *Assistant Director*

THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 55 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; and the Eighth, at Lima in 1938. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions from all the countries, in amounts proportional

to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 135,000 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: PATIO OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION





Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

CHURCH OF THE THIRD ORDER OF ST. FRANCIS, BAHIA

One of the magnificent churches that expressed the religious fervor of colonial Bahia.



# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 1



JANUARY 1946

## Colonial Art in Bahia

ELISIO DE CARVALHO LISBÔA

*Professor in the Polytechnic School, Bahia; former Mayor of Bahia*

THE city of Salvador, generally called Bahia because of its location on the Bahia de Todos os Santos (All Saints Bay), is the capital of the state of the same name, one of the great units in the United States of Brazil. It was founded in 1549 by Tomé de Souza. This Portuguese nobleman, the first governor general of Brazil, there set up the colonial seat of government, a distinction retained by the city for more than two centuries. It was not until 1763 that the capital was moved to Rio de Janeiro.

Soon after Bahia was founded, it became a center of commercial activity, in frequent communication with Portugal, Spain, Africa, the Indies, and all the Brazilian ports. It owed this growth to its magnificent harbor, large and easy of access, situated almost in the middle of the Brazilian coast; to the fertile land (known as O Recôncavo), which bordered the bay

and was particularly well adapted to sugar cane; to the nearby forests of woods suitable for cabinet-work, dyes, building, naval construction, and so on; and especially to its agreeable climate.

Early in the 18th century, the working of the productive gold mines in Minas Gerais and also in Jacobina, in the Captaincy of Bahia, was reflected in the enrichment of the capital. By the middle of that century art combined with the soaring wealth of the city to make it one of the most important places in America.

The Christian religion, introduced by the discoverers and firmly established by the Jesuits, who with extraordinary self-denial spread faith and learning in all the small Brazilian settlements, flourished in Bahia. When economic conditions permitted, religious fervor was expressed in the building of majestic churches, displaying a lavishness of interior decoration perhaps unri-



Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

CLOISTERS OF THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY AND TOWERS OF THE CHURCH



Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

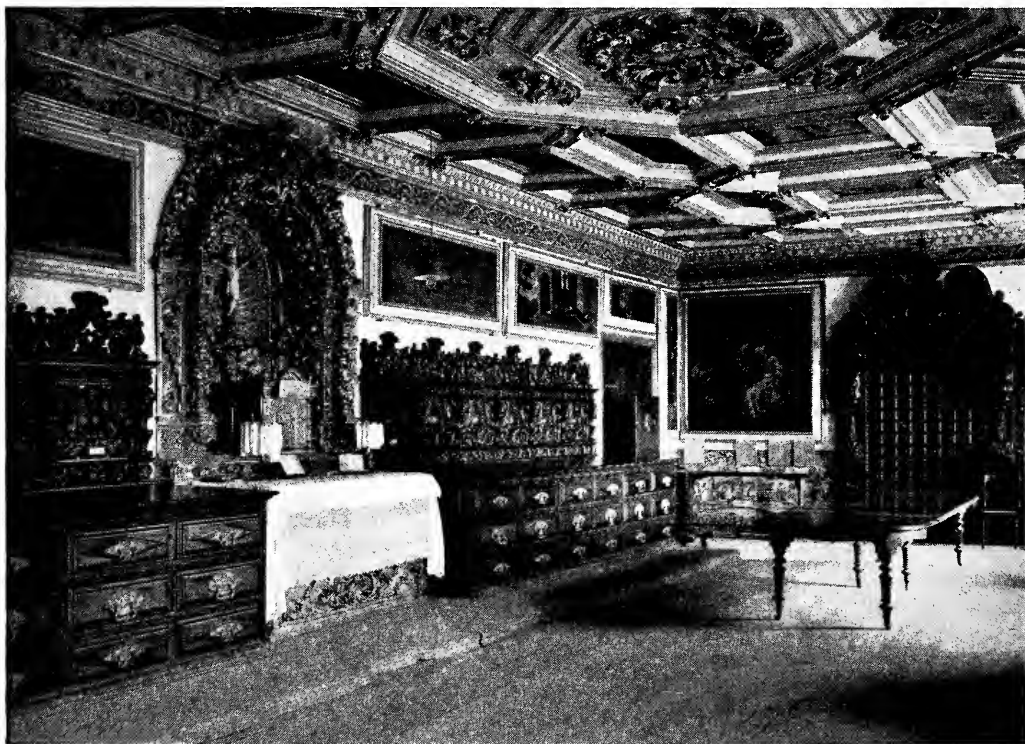
THE CATHEDRAL, BAHIA

valed in America. The cathedral (the church of the ancient Jesuit College) and the churches dedicated to St. Francis, the Third Order of St. Francis, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception of the Shore, Our Lady of the Pillar,<sup>1</sup> and many others, are monuments of art that thrill every one fortunate enough to see them. They reflect the taste, the artistic refinement, and the style prevailing in Portugal and Brazil in the first half of the 18th century. Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception of the Shore, entirely built of Lisbon stone, quarried and dressed

<sup>1</sup> *The Portuguese names of these churches are: A Catedral Basílica (Igreja do antigo Colégio dos Jesuítas), a Igreja de São Francisco, a Igreja da Ordem Terceira de São Francisco, a Igreja de Nossa Senhora do Carmo, a Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Conceição da Praia, a Igreja de Nossa Senhora do Pilar.*

in Portugal and taken to Bahia ready to set in place, is in the style of the Italian Renaissance. Except for this, the churches are King John V baroque, although the Church of the Third Order of St. Francis, the only one of its kind, is ultra-baroque in the profusion of sculpture that covers its façade with saints, coats-of-arms, volutes, foliage, and arabesques, likewise carved in Lisbon stone.

The simple and austere exterior of St. Francis' Church contrasts with the extraordinary profusion of ornament that completely covers the interior walls, without obscuring the architectural lines, however. Here the baroque style of the first period reached its height. Walls and altars are overlaid with richly gilded carved cedar, which hardly lets one see the surface of the

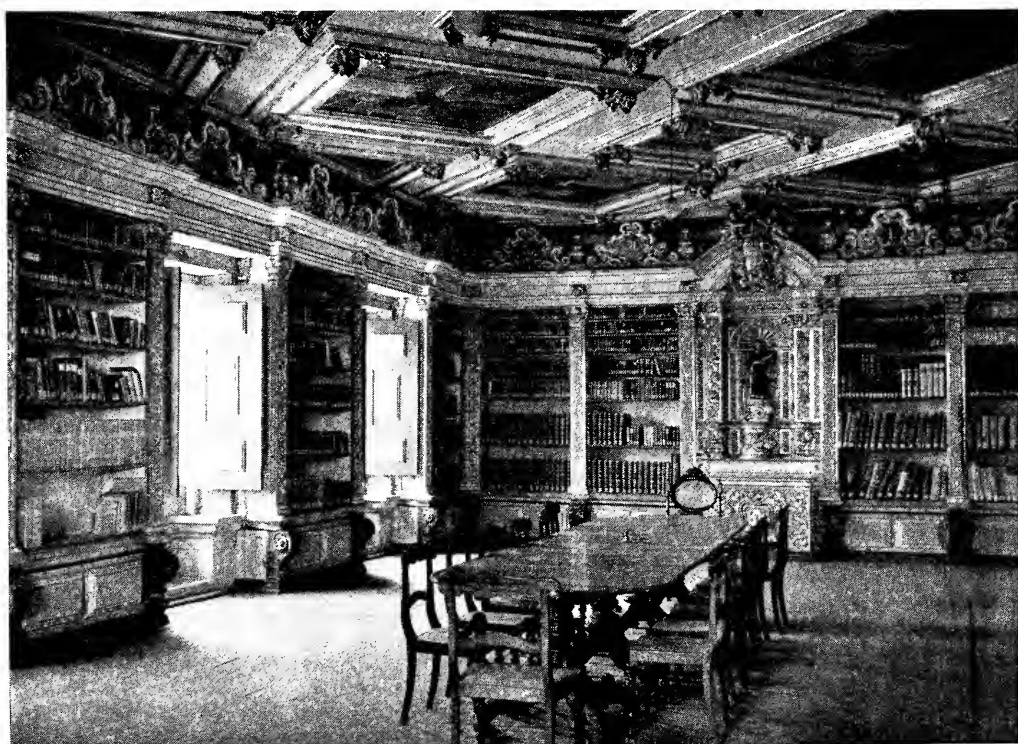
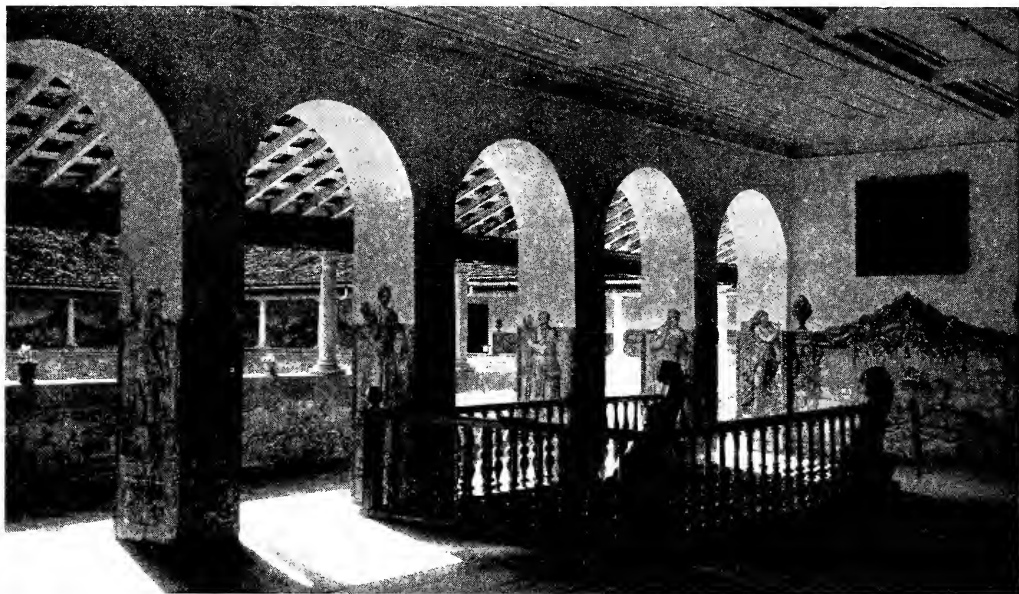


Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

#### THE SACRISTY, ST. FRANCIS

Fine Brazilian woods were utilized by the cabinetmakers of past centuries.





Photographs by Voltaire Fraga

### THE FRANCISCAN MONASTERY

Above: The cloister, decorated at the order of John V with Portuguese tiles.  
 Below: The library, in which the woodwork is notable.



Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

#### HIGH ALTAR, ST. FRANCIS

The carved and gilded woodwork gives an effect of indescribable richness. "The whole place seems lit by supernatural glory," says Philip L. Goodwin.



Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

### OUR LADY OF THE PILLAR

The style is King John V baroque of the first half of the 18th century.

building. The effect is fabulous. The enchanting harmony is heightened by the subtle distribution of light, which seems to fill the air with reflections from the gilding. The beholder does not know which to admire most—the imagination that conceived the spectacle or the ability of the artists who executed it. It is a marvel in the Portuguese and Spanish taste, in which Moorish motives, combined with the Renaissance style, produced the notable monuments that we admire in the Portuguese-built churches of this period. Of these St. Francis in Bahia is one of the most notable.

This church was begun in 1708 and finished structurally in 1723, although the interior was not terminated until 1750. It was built by spontaneous contributions

from the people and by private donations, in addition to the special gifts from the government and the monarchs of Portugal, especially John V. He had the altar of Saint Anthony gilded and commanded that the enormous cloister of the convent be faced with valuable tiles. The images, all carved of wood, are beautiful pieces of sculpture. The most notable are the work of the Bahian genius Manuel Inácio da Costa: St. Anthony, the Immaculate Conception, St. Anne, and St. Peter of Alcântara. St. Peter, his masterpiece, is famous throughout Brazil because of its great realism and pious expression. The best carvings in jacaranda—the railings separating the nave from the side aisles, the tables, dressers, and chests in the sacristy, the choir

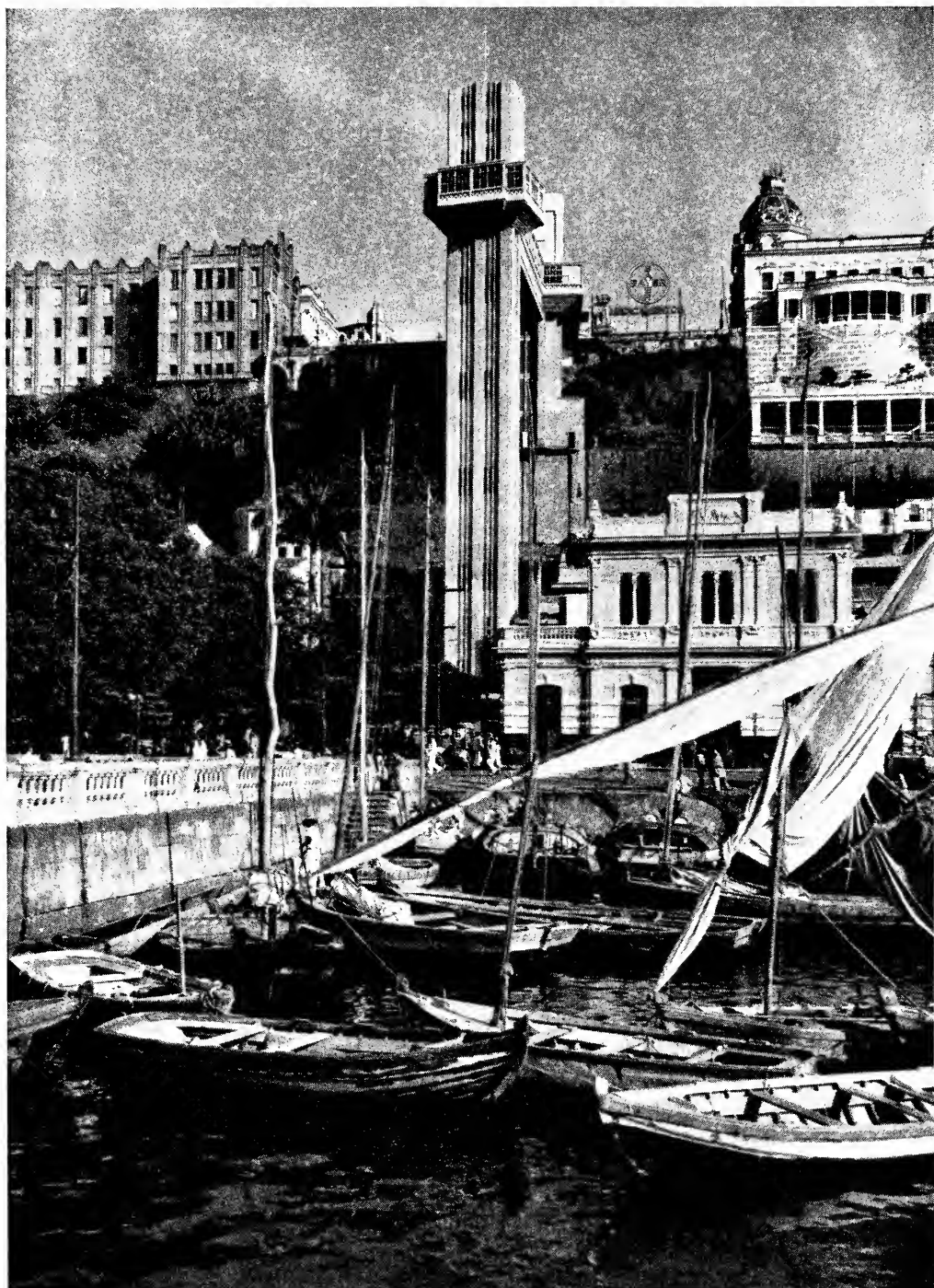


Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

#### A MODERN SECTION OF BAHIA

Now nearly four centuries old, Bahia has been almost from the beginning a center of commercial activity.





Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

### LACERDA ELEVATOR

The upper and lower levels of Bahia are connected by a tall elevator.

stalls and racks—were executed by Frei Luiz de Jesus, called *O Torneiro*, an artist who belonged to the Franciscan order.

To the architectural majesty of the churches are added beautiful interior decorations, including fine paintings and pieces of sculpture done by Brazilian and Portuguese artists, besides handsome silver and gold ecclesiastical vessels. Furniture, chests, dressers, and railings of jacaranda richly carved in the Manueline style and that of John V; bronze and crystal chandeliers and candlesticks, Dresden and Sèvres vases, and Chinese porcelain complete the decoration of the aisles, altars, sacristies, and the rooms of the various sodalities, with a lavish outpouring of wealth and art unequalled in any other Brazilian city.

Many Bahian homes of the same period or later have a graceful colonial architecture. Among their furnishings are similar chandeliers and furniture in the colonial styles—Manueline, John V, and Maria I—and in the style of the Brazilian Empire; European and oriental porcelain; and wondrous pieces of gold and silver jewelry set with diamonds and semi-precious stones for wear by the noble ladies of Bahia or for use as ornaments for the saints on church altars and in private chapels. All in all, Bahia was an amazing repository of objects of decorative art.

During the colonial period in Brazil, especially in the eighteenth century, severe restrictions were imposed on goldsmiths. At first this was because the Portuguese government feared that if coins were turned into jewelry currency would become scarce. Later, when the abundance of gold discovered in Minas Gerais and Bahia nullified this reason, the rule remained in force to prevent counterfeiting. Notwithstanding these restrictions, exquisite jewelry was made in Bahia. The insistent and reiterated recommendations of Portugal to the governors and viceroys bear witness to

the goldsmiths' unceasing activities. Furthermore, in 1766 the Portuguese government, not satisfied even with the strict regulations, in accordance with which the number of gold workers was limited and their shops confined to certain streets, carried its repressive measures to the point of completely abolishing the trade of goldsmith in the captaincies of Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, and Pernambuco.

Innumerable decorative pieces, especially jacaranda furniture and plate belonging to Bahian convents, churches, and old mansions, have been sold and taken away, but many things still remain, chiefly in private collections and the State museum. This Museum had an interesting collection of colonial art and lately the State Government, acting with the city, acquired the important Góis Calmon Collection, which enriched the Museum greatly.

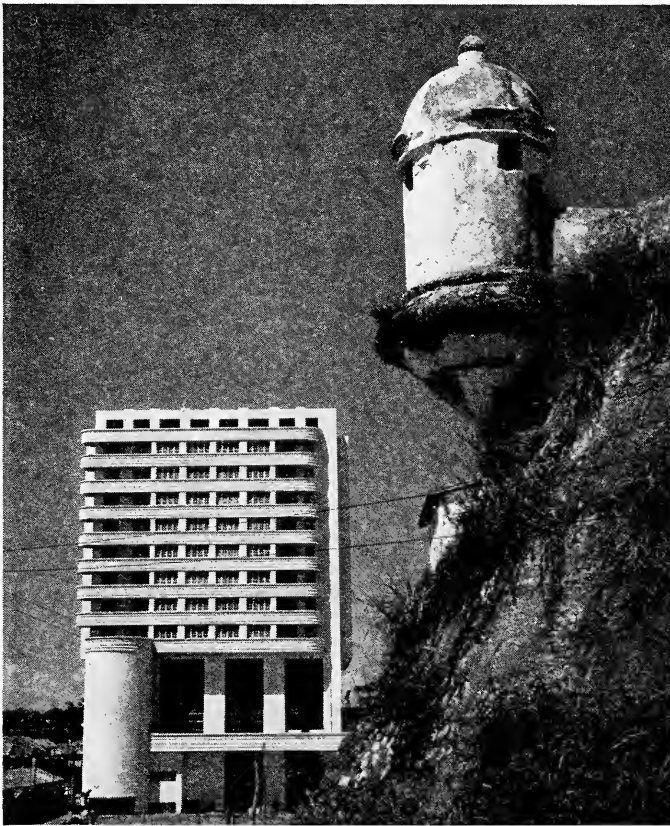
The National Service of Historical and Artistic Monuments has listed all the old buildings of interest and has thus assured their preservation and systematic protection as national monuments. Studies and special publications are issued under its auspices.

As the year 1949 approaches, Bahia, now a city of 400,000 inhabitants, is preparing to celebrate worthily the fourth centenary of its founding. Various preliminary steps have been taken by local authorities. For instance, the municipality is publishing the ancient documents in its archives under the title *Documentos Históricos do Arquivo Municipal*, so that all of them will have appeared by 1949. The first two volumes contain the proceedings of the municipality. Furthermore, a *Revista do Arquivo Municipal* is being issued. Bahian writers and others too contribute papers on the history of the city, especially studies based on research in the archives.

The Museum has also sponsored the

preparation of a ten-volume work called *Evolução Histórica da Cidade de Salvador*, which is to be printed before the fourth centenary. The following distinguished Bahians are in charge of it, each being responsible for one volume: Afrânio Peixoto, Afonso Rui de Souza, Artur Ramos, Carlos Chiachio, Fredrico Edelweiss, Godofredo Filho, José Vanderlei de Pinho, Luiz Viana Filho, Pedro Calmon, and Tales de Azevedo. The subjects to be discussed are: religious history, social history, Negroes in Bahia, fine arts, economic history, the development of the city, military history, political history, the evolution of science and letters, etc.

Besides these cultural plans various projects for the improvement of the city are under way: the construction of a handsome Municipal Theater, the Rui Barbosa Forum, a large stadium, overpasses, avenues, and hotels, besides the monuments that will be erected to Tomé de Souza, Padre Manuel da Nóbrega, Mestre Luiz Dias, and other personages linked to the founding and growth of the city. Thus the program will have the luster and the dignity merited by the event commemorated—the establishment of the first general government of Brazil, which has developed into the great and unified Brazil of our day.



Photograph by Voltaire Fraga

#### NEW AND OLD IN BAHIA

# The Inter-American Economic and Social Council

ON November 15, 1945 the installation of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council took place before a distinguished audience in the Hall of the Americas at the Pan American Union in Washington.

This Council, created by the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace that convened in Mexico City in February of last year, replaces the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, established by the first meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics in 1939.

The Honorable James F. Byrnes, Chairman of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union and Secretary of State of the United States, opened the ceremony, addressing the representatives on the new Council in the following words:

Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, held at Mexico City in February last, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union was entrusted with the provisional organization of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council pending further action by the Ninth International Conference of American States to be held at Bogotá, Colombia, in 1946.

It is in compliance with this directive of the Mexican Conference that we are today assembled. My colleagues of the Governing Board have accorded me the privilege of extending to you the warmest possible welcome on behalf of the Pan American Union.

The tasks entrusted to you had their inception in 1939 when the First Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics, held at Panama, authorized the Governing Board of the Pan American Union to organize the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee.

This Committee was established on the eve of a great world war, before the republics of the West-

ern Hemisphere had been drawn into the conflict, but the disturbing effects of the war in Europe were already making themselves felt on the economic structure of the nations of this Continent.

In the solution of problems affecting the commerce and transportation of the countries, members of the Pan American Union, and in formulating measures for the control of financial and economic activities of enemy aliens during the war, the Committee rendered valuable service. In the name of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union I desire to extend to the Committee a sincere expression of appreciation.

The constant desire of the nations of the Western Hemisphere has been to develop their economic resources and to raise to ever higher levels the conditions under which their peoples live. With the removal of the danger that threatened us during the past five years, we are again able to move forward along this path.

The basic principles of the economic and social policies of the American Republics have already been laid down. The conference held at Mexico City in February and March of this year adopted significant declarations affecting both economic and social relations. The Economic Charter of the Americas adopted at that meeting, declared in its opening paragraph: "The fundamental economic aspiration of the peoples of the Americas, in common with peoples everywhere, is to be able to exercise effectively their natural right to live decently, and work and exchange goods productively, in peace and with security."

It will be your responsibility to implement the basic principles embodied in the declarations of Mexico City, and to propose measures whereby they may be given practical application. One of your first tasks will be to consider the program of the Inter-American Technical Economic Conference. This Conference had been scheduled to convene today at the Pan American Union, but has now been postponed to April of 1946. In the meantime, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union has asked that you examine that program, undertake an immediate study of the most urgent topics presented therein, with a view to proposing appropriate solutions, as well as to

prepare a revised project of program for the Economic Conference.

Yours is a most important and significant task. The questions with which you have to deal are of the deepest concern to the nations of the Western Hemisphere. The economic, and, especially, the social problems facing the Governments of the American Republics demand an early and satisfactory solution. Raising the standard of living, increasing the productive capacity of the masses of the people, improving the general level of public health, protecting women and children against industrial exploitation are all intricate and difficult problems.

The studies and investigations that you will undertake on these and other subjects will be most helpful to the respective governments. Through your efforts the experience of each and every country, member of the Pan American Union, will be made available to all. Thus will the spirit of continental cooperation find expression and inter-American solidarity be strengthened.

My colleagues of the Governing Board join with me in wishing you the fullest measure of success in the fulfillment of the important duties entrusted to you.

A reply on behalf of the members of the Council was made by Senhor Eurico Penteadó, the Brazilian delegate. He said:

Permit me to express my thanks for the honor paid my country by my colleagues on the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in choosing the Brazilian delegate to reply to the address of welcome delivered by the Secretary of State in the name of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

I feel that in the discharge of this honorable duty it is not fitting to make an address in the literary sense of that word. In the modern world, the world of atomic energy, of penicillin, of airplanes faster than sound, and of other marvels of human genius; and in the times in which we are living, full of tragic problems and grim forebodings, times when millions of human beings are destitute of homes, clothing, and food; when the humanitarian idealism of the few must be reconciled with the legitimate interest and guarantees essential to the security of the many; when we are faced with the selfishness of some and with the age-old suspicions and prejudices of others—in such a world and such times, which demand action, addresses have no place.

Thus there is no room here for those rhetorical phrases for which we Latin Americans have acquired a reputation that in my opinion is neither enviable nor entirely undeserved.

Gentlemen: The eminent Secretary of State did not exaggerate when he said a few minutes ago: "The questions with which you have to deal are of the deepest concern to the nations of the Western Hemisphere;" nor when he added that "Raising the standard of living, increasing the productive capacity of the masses of the people, improving the general level of public health . . . all are intricate and difficult problems." For certainly the problems entrusted to this Council are of vital interest to our countries, and are complicated and difficult indeed.

This is the reason why we have to work—and work hard. In my view, one problem bulks larger and towers above all the rest because of its importance and its profound effects on the whole political, economic, and social structure of Latin America. This is the low—let us use a harsher and more adequate word—the miserable standard of living of great masses of the rural population in Latin America. And this is a problem that we must face bravely and resolutely because it is unworthy of the Americas that such a situation should continue.

To have an idea of the inhumane standard of living of millions of our fellow Americans in North, Central, and South America, it is enough to recall that while in the United States no human being can legally be paid less than 40 cents an hour for his work (and there is talk of raising this minimum to 65 cents), in many rural sections of Latin America men work for less than 40 cents a day—a day and not an hour—and not an 8-hour day or a 40-hour week, but days that begin with the darkness of dawn and end with the darkness of nightfall. In various parts of Latin America, country people suffer to the fullest extent the torment of living, in the dramatic phrase of President Roosevelt, "ill clad, ill housed, and ill nourished."

And if we wish true democracy to take root in Latin America, the first step towards that goal is to give humane and decent standards of living to its people, since history, mankind's experience through the ages, demonstrates that poverty and democracy cannot live together, cannot coexist.

Mr. Secretary of State, the delegates to the Inter-American Economic and Social Council thank you for your inspiring words and for the welcome that you have given them in the name of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union. They assure you that they will spare no





OPENING SESSION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

effort to attain the complete achievement of the Council's objectives.

The first business to come before the meeting was the choice of officers of the Council. Señor J. Rafael Oreámuno, representative of Costa Rica, proposed the election of the Honorable Spruille Braden, Assistant Secretary of State of the United States, as Chairman of the Board, saying:

The replacement of the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee places the new Inter-American Economic and Social Council in possession of a legacy of tradition and of tasks satisfactorily performed.

There is evidence that the Advisory Committee fulfilled the role assigned to it in the task of preparedness and defense. It took measures, in terms of the entire continent, regarding maritime services and rates, the utilization of immobilized enemy and neutral vessels, and the control of enemy properties. It called a Maritime Conference and a Conference of Central Banks; both are part of the tradition of full and unreserved cooperation in America.

It inspired the creation of two organizations most useful to inter-American economy and good understanding: the Inter-American Coffee Board, which in the recent emergency kept from ruin a great industry which during the First World War had suffered serious hardships; and the Inter-American Development Commission, which by confirmation of the Second Consultative Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs at Habana in 1940 and by resolutions of the Third Consultative Meeting in Rio de Janeiro in 1942, exists as a coordinating and directing center of a system of twenty-one National Commissions to which is to be added soon—we trust—with the expressed approval of all the American Governments, a Canadian Commission. This system of Inter-American Development Commissions, whose origin is gratefully credited to the Advisory Committee, has constituted an extraordinary experiment in the field of practical cooperation by private elements in each republic of the hemisphere with the backing of the respective governments. It exists now as one of the most efficient and proven instruments of constant cooperation ever conceived in the long and vigorous life of Pan Americanism.

In judging the degree of success reached by the Advisory Committee, it is necessary to make special mention of the persons who directed its functions.

The first chairman of the Committee was the Honorable Sumner Welles, who headed the delegation of his country to the First Consultative Conference, at which the Committee was created, and who put at its disposal all the intelligence, the vast experience, and deep sympathy for the solidarity of America which are characteristic of this distinguished diplomat of the United States.

His immediate successor was the Honorable Adolph Berle, who served with great distinction until he was transferred to Rio de Janeiro to carry out important functions on behalf of his Government.

The chairmanship of the Committee was then assumed by the Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller in that atmosphere of cordial esteem and sincere appreciation which his person inevitably awakens in every gathering of Latin American citizens. His intelligent, sincere, and passionate devotion to the cause of solidarity and mutual understanding among the peoples of this hemisphere has established him as one of the most justly admired advocates of this good cause. To this is due his outstanding success as chairman of the Advisory Committee.

The expression "inter-American" when used on an occasion such as this would have no prestige, nor even meaning, if it did not carry the implicit significance of constant, generous, and well-inspired collaboration. It is natural, then, that in considering the one who is to be the first chairman of the new inter-American organization which we are inaugurating today, special attention should be given to the circumstances surrounding the participation in inter-American affairs of the candidate. It is with well deliberated consideration of the happy circumstances which surround the active diplomatic life of the Honorable Spruille Braden, of his brilliant mental and spiritual capacities, as well as in recognition of the excellent tradition to which I have just referred, that I have the honor to propose to my colleagues the designation of the Delegate of the United States as chairman of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

This nomination having been unanimously approved, Mr. Braden took the chair and expressed his thanks for the honor done him, saying:

I am most appreciative of the honor you have accorded me, as the representative of my Government, in electing me Chairman of this Council. When I think how much the labors of the Council may mean for the future well-being of the peoples of this Continent, I am conscious of the heavy responsibility in which I, and all of us who represent our governments on this body, share. You can count on me to contribute my best efforts to realizing the important purposes for which it was established.

The Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, formed at the outset of the war through which we have just passed together, was of inestimable service as an organ through which the American governments found joint solutions for many emergency problems with which the economic shocks and dislocations of the war confronted them. The Committee played its part in the winning of the war and in protecting the economies of our nations. The Inter-American Economic and Social Council, conceived at Mexico as one of the major permanent organs of the inter-American system, to carry on the functions hitherto performed by the Committee in addition to its new and broader responsibilities, now begins its labors with confidence because of the record already established by the Committee.

I do not think any of us need to be reminded that the conclusion of the war confronts us with problems hardly less serious and hardly less difficult than those we have met and overcome together in the years just past. But now the emphasis is different, for now it is incumbent upon us to realize the peace-time objectives for which we carried our war effort through to a successful conclusion.

The principal objective, from which the others depend, is the preservation and strengthening of our democracy, which the American states "consider essential for the peace of America." We are agreed that "economic cooperation is essential to the common prosperity" of our countries, and we strive to realize an "equitable coordination of all interests to create an economy of abundance," with a view to insuring peace and security for all our people and the raising of their standards of living. No other inter-American agency has such direct and comprehensive responsibility for the realization of these transcendent objectives as the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, which we are inaugurating today. To this objective its members have dedicated themselves.

There is work to be done, important work, urgent work. I look forward eagerly to participating

with the other members of the Council in its successful accomplishment.

The Council then proceeded to the election of the vice chairman. Dr. Héctor David Castro, Ambassador of El Salvador and representative of his country on the Council, was nominated by Dr. Julian R. Cáceres, Ambassador of Honduras and representative of that country, who said:

The Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, created in an emergency situation to protect the economy of the American republics, is today transformed into the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, thus giving effect to Chapter 7, Resolution 9, of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace. This Council, faced with the requirements of peace, will direct its efforts, as its name implies, towards coordinating and increasing the economic and social progress of the American republics.

Now that the war, which brought about the dislocation of all constructive activities, has come to an end, the Advisory Committee, which mitigated as far as possible the effects of this dislocation on the economic life of the continent, must yield its place to the Economic and Social Council. After the obliteration of human rights by war, this body, conceived with vision, will work to assert the dignity of man, which is peace.

In view of these essential purposes, the Inter-American Economic and Social Council cannot be a merely academic entity. It will be a laboratory of ideas and principles, a living receptacle for systems and theories to be considered in conjunction with the aspirations of the nations of this hemisphere.

To coordinate the official inter-American activities of an economic and social character, to promote social progress and a higher standard of living in all the American republics, are not only functions of the Council but also tasks that require creative energy, a dynamic drive, and effective guidance for the enormous mass of humanity which from one end to the other of the continent moves and lives, believes in and hopes for the advent of greater collective perfection, for a greater power to prepare nature and man, animate beings and inanimate objects, and start them on the upward march of human progress.

At no time in the history of America has there been so imperative the organization of a continental Council to observe and consider the eco-

nomic and social problems of the new part of humanity on this side of the Atlantic and to formulate at the same time programs for constructive action, for realities operating within the nations that are now advancing.

If America is a melting pot of races in the formation of its history, it must also be a melting pot of economic and social theories for the benefit of mankind, that is, for the progress of civilization and culture.

America, which is naturally eclectic and without prejudice in its historical development, which is eager to progress in every way, may well find for itself the stupendous formula—if it does not already have the beginning of one—which will fuse the various systems that in one way or another aspire to bring about the happiness of man.

How remarkably America has been the center of gravity for irresistible human aspirations, ideals, and hopes!

Every day the nations of America create, every day they construct, every day they advance in the understanding and the solution of their common problems. Democracy is a common denominator; that is, it offers equality of political and economic opportunities to individuals and peoples, political and economic security in the affirmation of inter-Americanism.

For these ends the American nations have created a system of collective fellowship, of spiritual and material cooperation, which holds them together and unifies them in the pursuit of the collective ideal. The solidarity that unites the nations of this hemisphere is mutual aid, common participation in the benefits of progress, and equivalence of spiritual and material means for their own progress. If we are a physical unit in the realm of geography, we are also a moral unit in the realm of the spirit, in the consubstantial democracy of our political systems and in the meshing of the diverse economic interests directed towards effective inter-American cooperation. In that spirit of mutual helpfulness, of the economic unity that we desire, the economic and social deficiencies of any American country will be considered and remedied, according to the intent of the statute of the Economic and Social Council, as if they were suffered by each and every one of the members of inter-American community; if indeed it is true that they really share shoulder to shoulder the destiny of any country that has not achieved in the past what the future today requires of it.

The Economic and Social Council has before it an enormous task. It is designed to complement a function of Pan Americanism in action. We are

to be congratulated because for these important activities we have unanimously elected as Chairman the Honorable Spruille Braden, who has an understanding mind and a continental culture and vision.

In this same spirit of satisfaction I have the pleasure of proposing for your consideration as a candidate for the vice-chairmanship of this Council an admirable figure well known for his fine qualities, a man whose name is familiar in Pan American activities. I have the pleasure of referring to the Honorable Héctor David Castro, representative of the Republic of El Salvador.

All the members of the Council concurred in this choice, and Dr. Castro expressed his thanks for the distinction conferred upon him, speaking briefly as follows:

My election as vice chairman of the new Inter-American Economic and Social Council confers a high honor upon me. In speaking these words, I address the Secretary of State of the United States, the Chairman of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, my diplomatic colleagues, the representatives on the Council, and the other members of this audience.

After hearing the authoritative addresses referring to the duties of the Council, I have little to say. I shall have the privilege of cooperating with a very worthy chairman of our Council, and this I shall of course do with all my heart, since I am acquainted with the work of the Inter-American American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, and am desirous of joining in the labors of this new organization which is now holding its first meeting under the name of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council.

I shall be honored to collaborate with the Honorable Spruille Braden, its chairman, in the task of directing the new Council. Permit me to thank you, gentlemen, for the tribute you have paid me in electing me vice chairman. Well aware as I am of the responsibilities devolving upon me, I shall try to meet them to the best of my ability. Thank you.

The members of the Council as of December 10 are the following:

ARGENTINA:	Señor Anselmo M. Viacava Economic Counselor, Argentine Embassy
BOLIVIA:	Señor Carlos Dorado Chopitea Counselor, Bolivian Embassy Señor Germán Rovira Counselor, Bolivian Embassy ( <i>Alternate</i> )
BRAZIL:	Senhor Eurico Penteado Commercial Counselor, Brazilian Embassy
CHILE:	Señor Marcial Mora Ambassador of Chile Señor Mario Illanes Commercial Counselor, Chilean Embassy ( <i>Alternate</i> )
COLOMBIA:	Dr. Emilio Toro
COSTA RICA:	Dr. J. Rafael Oreamuno Director General, Inter-American Development Commission
CUBA:	Dr. Guillermo Belt Ambassador of Cuba Dr. Felipe Pazos Commercial Attaché, Cuban Embassy ( <i>Technical Adviser</i> ) Señor Enrique Pérez-Cisneros Assistant Commercial Attaché, Cuban Embassy ( <i>Technical Adviser</i> )
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:	Dr. J. R. Rodríguez Minister-Counselor, Dominican Embassy
ECUADOR:	Dr. Luis Eduardo Laso Minister-Counselor, Ecuadorean Embassy Señor Jorge Reyes Financial Counselor, Ecuadorean Embassy ( <i>Adviser</i> )
EL SALVADOR:	Dr. Héctor David Castro Ambassador of El Salvador
GUATEMALA:	Dr. Enrique López-Herrarte Counselor, Guatemalan Embassy
HAITI:	M. Jacques C. Antoine Ambassador of Haiti
HONDURAS:	Dr. Julián R. Cáceres Ambassador of Honduras
MEXICO:	Señor Luciano Wiechers Financial Counselor, Mexican Embassy
NICARAGUA:	Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa Ambassador of Nicaragua

	Dr. Alberto Sevilla Sacasa Secretary, Nicaraguan Em- bassy ( <i>Alternate</i> )	PERU:	Señor Juan Chávez Dartnell Minister Counselor, Peruvian Embassy.
PANAMA:	Señor Julio Ernesto Heurte- matte Commercial Counselor, Pana- manian Embassy	UNITED STATES:	Hon. Spruille Braden Assistant Secretary of State. Mr. Emilio G. Collado Deputy on Financial Affairs, Department of State ( <i>Alternate</i> .)
PARAGUAY:	Dr. Celso R. Velázquez Ambassador of Paraguay Dr. César R. Acosta Counselor, Paraguayan Em- bassy ( <i>Alternate</i> ). Dr. Néstor M. Campos Ros First Secretary, Paraguayan Embassy ( <i>Alternate</i> ).	URUGUAY:	Señor Juan Felipe Yriart First Secretary, Uruguayan Embassy
		VENEZUELA:	Dr. Luis E. Gómez Ruiz Counselor, Venezuelan Em- bassy.

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## The Dominican Land and Mortgage Bank

THROUGH the courtesy of the Hon. Emilio García Godoy, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic in Washington and member of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, the BULLETIN has received a copy of the address made by Generalissimo Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina, President of the Dominican Republic, at the opening of the Land and Mortgage Bank of that country on August 29, 1945. The President spoke as follows:

On this occasion, invested with the apparent simplicity that surrounds important events, we are gathered here for the inauguration of the Land and Mortgage Bank, the credit institution that the Dominican people have been demanding for so many years. With its opening to public service, the Government is taking a step forward in the plan scheduled for the economic development of the Republic, in the greatest effort ever made during our independent life to attain the highest welfare of our people. The creation of this Bank is one achievement more in the development of my new policy of putting into effect the practical measures demanded by the prosperity

and advancement of all classes contributing to the promotion of national production.

### *The Land Bank's orientation*

The orientation of the Land and Mortgage Bank may be summed up in the following principle: to offer credit facilities for the creation of greater wealth and to increase opportunities for labor. This principle must react against the system which brought about inflations and which gave such bitter experiences to both creditors and debtors. At times, credit facilities opened the way to indebtedness, relaxing the laws of production and labor. Many believed that prosperity would never end, and thus obligations were incurred which were out of harmony with the normal yield of production, and which, instead of leading to the increase of wealth, promoted wild speculation.

### *Experiences from the last depressions*

Experience from the last depressions taught the institutions administering land credit that the latter should serve to promote and invigorate production, to help the entrepreneur and not the speculator, inasmuch as the former invests money in order to create wealth, while the latter uses it to force a harmful boom in values. The depressions



proved that analyses and the checking-up of investments are indispensable.

This policy, which should be the fundamental policy of the Land and Mortgage Bank, will certainly startle some of the loan applicants; but debtors will realize that the Bank's investigation prior to the granting of credit as well as supervision during the life of the indebtedness are measures indispensable to a sound credit organization and a better orientation of the producers' business.

#### *The bank as a public service*

Another principle of these Banks is that they should function, like any other business, according to sound and fair standards, though never forgetting that they are performing a public service. Therefore, the Land and Mortgage Bank of the Dominican Republic should ever strive to help render the Nation's financial conditions favorable to the furtherance of agriculture, industry, and business in general.

In 1844, our Founding Fathers obtained political independence for the present generation. A century afterwards, I am taking another step towards the consolidation of economic independence, the basis of all prosperity.

The nation at large, I am sure, will modify many concepts and standards in the social order, bringing them into line with technical knowledge and the exercise of Christian justice, through the deep humane content that I wish to impress upon the reform which creates the system of long-term credits and low interest rates. The plan involves the protection of the weak without injury to the legitimate rights of the more fortunate, for it is my belief that the former may be strengthened without necessarily injuring the latter.

#### *Political democracy and economic democracy*

Observation of present-day world events teaches us that political democracy cannot be stable if it is not founded upon economic democracy. It is the duty of statesmen nowadays not to run counter to the social laws that Destiny points out. That is why I wish to take advantage of the present occasion when we are witnessing the birth of this credit institution, the role of which is bound to be so important for the future of the Republic, to describe briefly the stage that my Government aims to reach in the immediate future as part of its plan for the development of national wealth which, according to its economic policy, it has been carrying out for a number of years.

I am deeply interested in getting this plan through, and I have spared no efforts to make it

effective, considering as I do that the development of wealth constitutes the basis for the dignity of nations.

#### *Poverty in our past*

All the vicissitudes of our past, both in internal and international relations, have their root in poverty. Although we were called by destiny to occupy a privileged position among the peoples of the New World, since this was the land that served to transfer European civilization to the Western Hemisphere, adverse fate has hitherto prevented us from seeing that destiny fulfilled. The whole course of our history, once the early years of colonization were over, is nothing but an accumulation of adverse factors that did not cease to affect us unfavorably, even after our political independence.

I want to be the vindicator of that destiny, and so the foremost and greatest of all my efforts as a leader has been to infuse in the Dominican people a love for work and to bring home to them the conviction that therein lies the primary force which is bound to result in the advancement of their own welfare. I can state with legitimate pride that my preaching has produced the results sought, and that the change brought about in our people's habits is already producing the desired benefits.

#### *Unwarranted doubts concerning our administrative capacity*

I cannot deny that it is with intimate and deep satisfaction that I look at what has been accomplished. The first step was the suppression of the outdated instrument which overshadowed for many years the sovereign power of the State in financial questions; this culminated in the Treaty of September 24, 1940. The second one was the creation of the Reserve Bank of the Dominican Republic, which has placed in the hands of our national economy a first-class credit institution designed to promote our commerce and develop wealth.

In both instances there were those who expressed doubts as to our administrative capacity to carry out efficiently operations of the highest economic and financial order, which until then had always been in foreign hands; and nowadays even those who rejoiced in forecasting chaos acknowledge, or should acknowledge, that the collection of customs duties, the service of the public debt, and the record of the Reserve Bank of the Dominican Republic have attained a

standard of efficiency far above the most optimistic expectations.

#### *The future*

In the future we shall have to confront a situation demanding a high degree of foresight and an unswerving will for the execution of our proposed plans, inasmuch as we shall have to protect and stimulate the economic development attained in a world at full boiling point, the ultimate course of which cannot be predicted. Therefore, I wish to lay down now the program that my Government proposes to introduce during the next few years in order to meet the circumstances.

#### *Agricultural policy*

As regards agricultural activities, I shall continue to sponsor an increase in those crops which furnish our principal supply of foodstuffs. The policy that I pursued concerning rice production, which shifted us from importers to exporters of this cereal, has been continued and will be continued with regard to all other essential items of consumption with a view first of all to fostering the domestic market so that the Dominican people can enjoy adequate food, according to modern nutritional standards, and conveniently satisfy their needs for clothing, shelter, education, and recreation. I consider this the basic point in my program. All the other activities must be coordinated so as to satisfy this objective, since every man living in this country is entitled to the benefit

of the labor of all: particularly it is the humble man, the laboring man who struggles against the soil or moulds with his hands the works of progress, whom I wish to obtain the greatest satisfaction in our economy. The development of the domestic market and a raise in the standard of living of the Dominican people is my highest aspiration as a leader.

#### *New industrial outlook*

In the industrial field I intend to continue and increase the stimulus to Dominican enterprises that furnish work and means of livelihood, in the country as well as in the cities, to that mass of the population which must distribute its activities between the home and labor. With this aim in view I have drawn up a plan to increase the number of trade schools, wherein the State will offer the technical training leading to improved and increased production in textiles, reed and wicker articles, furniture of fine hardwoods, wooden housewares, and numberless other objects which already have found markets, both within and outside the country. And in an order of even greater scope, I have already stated my purpose to stimulate the creation of machine industries in which our leading raw materials must be processed. There is no reason whatever why we should not attain the highest success in the processing of cacao, coffee, sugar, molasses, to mention only a few of our products, when we possess all the necessary factors to obtain higher prices and better conditions in the markets.



Courtesy of Sr. Emilio García Godoy

INTERIOR OF THE NEW DOMINICAN LAND AND MORTGAGE BANK

*Regional interchange*

In the development of commercial intercourse my foremost aim is guided, above all, by the need of stimulating the interchange of products among the different regions of the country, and the Government will lend its full support to the organization which private initiative may adopt to improve this interchange and will offer its official cooperation through the adoption of such administrative or legislative measures as the prosperity of trade may require.

*Securing foreign markets*

As regards international trade, it is the earnest desire of my Government to secure markets for our products. I have faith that the new international economic concepts formulated in the Hot Springs and Bretton Woods agreements as well as in the San Francisco Charter will make it less difficult for us to obtain justice. The Dominican Republic, which has offered all its support to the United Nations, its allies, is entitled to occupy the place it deserves in world markets. We shall sponsor the lowering of customs barriers, we shall give investment opportunities to foreign capital, we shall open our arms to healthy and industrious immigrants who wish to come and share our work; but we look forward to greater stability in the markets for our products and to the opening, on firm bases, of the markets which because of geographical, political, and economic reasons must be, reciprocally, the most suitable for disposing of our national products.

*The banking organization under study*

The policy that I intend to develop in the matter of banking and credit is symbolized by today's inauguration, the most eloquent expression of my aspirations. And the program which I have traced for myself in such an important aspect of our national life must not be deemed concluded at this stage. I look forward to the establishment of a banking and credit organization, consonant with the most exacting standards of efficiency and honesty. At this very time, two distinguished American economists from the Federal Reserve System of the United States are conducting studies, at the Government's request, with a view to making recommendations, in cooperation with Dominican officials, on the reforms that we must introduce in the system now in force, as well as on the adoption of such measures as may be necessary for the systematic organization of our banks, our credit, and our means of exchange.

*Faith in our people*

Only to those peoples who have no faith in themselves is the fulfillment of their destinies denied. Dominican history during the first 86 years of our independent life was but a struggle, bloodless at times and at times tragically bloody, in which a small group of the enlightened strove against a majority which had not attained faith in the results of its labors and intelligence in constructive endeavor.

I believe in Dominican capacity; I believe in Dominican labor; I believe in Dominican intelligence. I have no doubt but that by guiding the common effort towards a goal of order and prosperity, we shall be able to develop our wealth fully and enjoy a standard of living as high as that of any prosperous nation. Therefore, from the day on which, by the will of my countrymen, I assumed the political and administrative guidance of the country, my first aim was then, and still continues to be, to show that the apathy and disillusionment of the Dominicans, which was mentioned by Sánchez Valverde and Moreau de Saint-Mery among others, and which continued to be repeated as a fatalistic national idea for almost two centuries, do not truly represent our collective spirit. And it seems to me there is no need of statistical data to affirm that, with the labor accomplished in fifteen years of Government, the Dominican people has been able to react victoriously against that skeptical verdict.

The bank has a capital of 2,000,000 pesos (\$2,000,000 U. S.), to be subscribed entirely by the state. The Government supplied an initial sum of 500,000 pesos and the remainder will be made available as required but in amounts not exceeding 500,000 pesos a year. These sums will be furnished by the Government in cash or in treasury vouchers redeemable in five years and bearing interest of 5 percent per year. Provision is made in the law for increasing the bank's capital to 5,000,000 pesos if it is considered advisable.

The bank is authorized to make real estate mortgage loans for a maximum term of 30 years, at interest not more than 3 percent above the interest the bank pays its creditors. Such loans may be made for the

purchase of real property; for drainage and irrigation works; for equipment and machinery for agricultural, livestock, or industrial purposes; for construction and improvements on land; and for the payment of debts contracted under less favorable conditions than the debtor may obtain from the bank. Short-term credit is also authorized, through cooperatives and other agricultural credit groups, for the development of agricultural, livestock, and industrial enterprises, and especially for the benefit of persons of modest economic resources.

Net annual earnings of the bank will be distributed as follows: not less than 15 per-

cent to the bank's guaranty fund until the fund is on a par with paid capital; not less than 15 percent to a fund for the development of cooperatives; not less than 15 percent to a special administrative fund; not less than 15 percent to a fund for the promotion of useful new business enterprises in the republic; 10 percent as a reserve for the guarantee of credits; and the remainder to the capital account until it reaches a total of 5,000,000 pesos. Earnings applied to the capital account will be deducted from the State's annual contribution to capital. When the maximum capital has been attained, all excess earnings will be paid as a dividend to the Government.



## The Development of Aviation in Latin America

GEORGE RIHL

*Pan American World Airways*

EVEN though the aircraft which were available for commercial operations immediately after the ending of World War I lacked the range and capacity necessary for establishing connections between the Old World and the New, the European operators were farsighted enough to recognize the importance of the new medium of travel for the domestic use of the thinly populated and economically undeveloped

*The Pan American Union celebrated on September 1, 1945, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. L. S. Rowe, as Director General. During these years the American republics have together made great progress, spiritual and material. In honor of the Director General, the BULLETIN is publishing a series of papers on inter-American relations, 1920-1945, of which this is the fifth.*

republics of Latin America. The earliest attempts to establish airlines south of the United States border were made by veterans of European military air forces cooperating with local capitalists who had obtained experience in aviation during the sporting phase of its development. Typical of these enterprises was the company known as SCADTA (Sociedad Colombo-Alemana de Transportes Aéreos) which was organized in Colombia by Austrian pilots and which, as a fully national airline called AVIANCA, is now second only to the Dutch KLM in terms of continuous operation among the airlines of the world. From its founding in 1920 it established a



Courtesy of the Grace Log

#### A NEW PLANE FOR INTER-AMERICAN SERVICE

A Lockheed Constellation on a trial flight off the California coast.

pattern for operations in rugged and sparsely inhabited areas when it cut travel time between the Caribbean coast and the capital at Bogotá to a few hours, as against the unpredictable weeks of boat travel on the Magdalena River.

To understand the airplane as the extraordinary instrument it has proven itself to be throughout major areas of Latin America, it is necessary to consider the peculiar economic conditions of that vast territory. Most of the twenty republics to the south of us have developed air transportation to a degree usually greater than had been necessary in the United

States at the beginning of World War II and it is generally possible to state that this development has been in inverse ratio to the available amount of other types of transportation. In countries where the railway and highway networks have had an extensive development, Argentina being the best example, aviation has been relegated to a secondary level in the national transport organization, somewhat similar to the situation that obtained in our own country up to 1939. It follows therefore that the airplane has been functioning for two decades as a primary factor in the social and commercial structure of the



economically poorer and technologically less developed republics such as those of Central America, Ecuador, and Bolivia. The extraordinary impulse which world-wide aviation has received through its highly publicized military use will serve to stimulate increased activity throughout the whole Hemisphere and bring into line those portions of Latin America that paid little attention to air transport—but it is a fact that the Latin American has been airminded for many years and is only awaiting the elimination of wartime restrictions on the delivery of equipment in order to make up for time lost while the conflict was in progress.

The European companies organized in Latin America in the early twenties were quickly identified as affiliates to world-wide systems that assumed almost at once a political character which the United States was not prepared to follow and has

never wanted to pursue. It is because of this that the tremendous development which the U. S. flag carriers ultimately achieved had to wait for sound economic justification for their own organization and also for a means to obtain government support which would not be construed as a method for implanting another instrument of political penetration. The uncertainty which surrounded the legislative mechanism ultimately to be devised retarded domestic aviation development in the United States and delayed to a greater extent the establishment of United States competition with the European government-sponsored airlines.

By the time Pan American Airways was organized in 1927 the French had started an ambitious chain of routes which, from the transatlantic landfall in Brazil, extended north to Venezuela and south along the coast to Buenos Aires and across the



Courtesy of Pan American Airways

#### AN AVIANCA PLANE

The Colombian line now known as AVIANCA is second in the world in terms of continuous operation.



Copyright by Jean Manzoni

#### FLYING OVER THE BRAZILIAN FOREST

Aviation has been of tremendous importance in linking all parts of the enormous territory of Brazil.

Andes to Santiago. Their program, which was ultimately to fail because of political stresses at home, contemplated extending this network northward along the Pacific to meet the Caribbean branch in the neighborhood of the Canal, there to extend into the Caribbean and possibly to the United States.

The Germans, while experimenting with lighter-than-air transatlantic ships, established a series of semi-autonomous companies, presumably to be united later into one system, which strongly established their personnel and flying equipment in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil and to a lesser extent in the River Plate region. There was no uniformity of control or operation but, through aircraft

purchase agreements and personnel training programs, by 1933 Germany could consider itself dominant in the field of domestic and intra-South American aviation.

The British, perhaps for reasons of Empire necessity which absorbed the limited production of their aircraft industry, had excluded Latin America from plans drawn up as early as 1920. Acting to keep Great Britain in the field, although always operating under the flags of the various republics which his companies have served, was Lowell Yerex, New Zealand born organizer of TACA—Transportes Aéreos Centro Americanos. Starting about 1932, this company has recently expanded beyond the borders of Central America and ap-



Courtesy of Pan American World Airways

#### FLYING THE ANDES

It is hard to realize that all the inter-American airway system has been created in less than 20 years.

pears to be in the process of becoming a hemispheric network. Particularly in the early days it constituted an extraordinary experimental station for large volume, low cost operations, and it was of inestimable value to the small republics of Central America, which up to that time had only the most primitive connections between their capitals and their outlying provinces.

Pan American Airways System began in the fall of 1927—that is, less than twenty years ago—as a connection between Key West in Florida and Habana, Cuba. This limited operation had been attempted by other United States companies but the new enterprise was properly timed with our government's plans to aid the extension of airmail services beyond the borders

of the country and thus to aid those who were planning to extend to all the Americas the benefits of the new, fast means of communications. The 90-mile route expanded with extraordinary rapidity both by the opening of routes pioneered by its organizing group and through the purchase of existing carriers in various countries. The history of the development has been told many times. Within two years the American flag was flying on regular schedules all the way to Buenos Aires via both coasts of South America and connections were established from the Texas border to the Canal Zone with service to each one of the intervening republics. By 1938 all the countries of South America had multiple weekly services and with the

impact of war frequencies were stepped up, cut-off routes established, and general traffic figures expanded to many times their pre-war level.

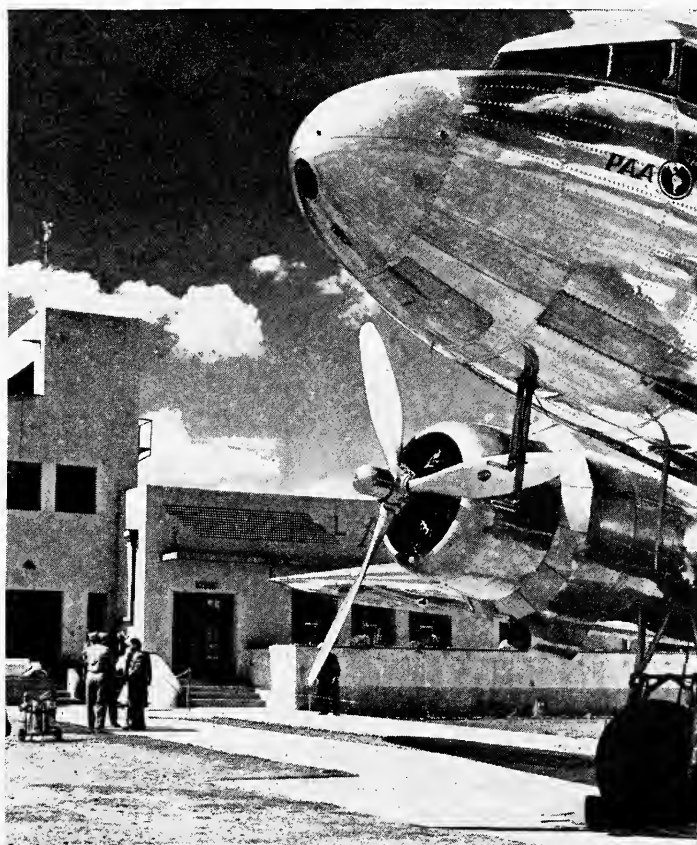
Pan American Airways anticipated the needs of traffic up to the beginning of the war by the development of new, faster and larger airplanes and only the need to help with the war effort served to stop a commercial expansion which placed the company ahead of all other world airlines. During this period the company, by purchase and new organizations, maintained domestic operations in Mexico, Colombia, Cuba, and Brazil. More recently new domestic airlines have been organized in several of the Central American republics, the Dominican Republic, and Venezuela.

All of this has been part of a program which it was intended should make available to those elements of each country which were interested in air transportation the most modern, efficient, and safe procedures that were being evolved in our own country under the enlightened guidance of the Civil Aeronautics Board as organized in 1938.

The national companies, when operated at the high standards which Pan American Airways had set for itself, found difficulty in competing profitably with the European-controlled companies. The latter were admittedly intended to be elements of commercial and political penetration without necessarily having independent economic justification. Because of this the

#### AT THE AIRPORT, COCHABAMBA

The transcontinental route from Arequipa, Peru, across Bolivia to São Paulo, Brazil, proved very useful during the war.



Courtesy of Pan American World Airways

United States government and Pan American Airways were glad to cooperate in maintaining the purely commercial services of these national airlines until such time as by increased utilization and greater general activity they might become self-sustaining. That time has now been reached in most cases and during the last three years Pan American Airways has carried out a program of divestment of stock ownership which has reduced its 100 percent control of the companies in Mexico and Brazil and has transferred control of the Colombian subsidiary to nationals of that country. The company is considering a similar program in Cuba. In recent years also the initial participation of the company in the newly established airline enterprises in the countries has been kept at a minority level, a policy justified by the increased interest of national capitalists in such airline operations.

In observance of the laws of most Latin American countries Pan American Airways has aided in the instruction of nationals for the operation and management of its affiliates and, with minor exceptions, the whole of the flying group of each one is now made up of national pilots. Similarly the communications and ground organizations are in the hands of local personnel which has had the benefit of Pan American Airways training. These companies in most cases act as the local representative of the U. S. flag carrier.

In spite of the tremendous increase that the airlines have had during the war throughout all of Latin America, through the positive factor of increased air consciousness and the negative factor of the elimination of other means of transport, the plans now in the process of development for their postwar expansion far surpass anything which has been done in the past. Applications of Pan American Air-

ways and of a large number of other United States carriers for operations in Latin America presuppose an increase in passenger traffic by air alone from two to five times the pre-war passenger movement by all existing means of transportation. In the Chicago International Civil Aviation Conference the principal European nations as well as the majority of the Latin American republics indicated their own individual plans for expansion in this area. With a full knowledge of this vast competitive potential Pan American Airways alone has embarked on an equipment purchase program of about 40,000,000 dollars. The Company has been spending millions in addition to improve its vast chain of radio stations so that immediately on the delivery of four-engined equipment it may initiate night flying along the principal trunk routes and still further cut flying-time among the principal commercial centers of the hemisphere. The new aircraft, huge in size, and of economical operation, should permit cuts in rates to something less than half present tariffs on the longest hauls.

Thus the vision which launched the hazardous hop between the U. S. mainland and Cuba, established with the elementary equipment of its day but with a sound program of safety and economy, is now the spearhead of a vast network. Local feeders affiliated with it—competitive networks, both American and foreign—national cargo and passenger services—all contribute to bring to the western hemisphere speedy and safe flying schedules that have given to its citizens the most modern of conveyances and have skipped the slow development of surface transportation, in itself a retarding factor in the industrialization and social progress of all the Americas.



# Gabriela Mistral

Awarded the 1945 Nobel Prize for Literature

FERNANDO ALEGRÍA

*Division of Intellectual Cooperation, Pan American Union*

A single poem, a book, a song, sometimes has led a man to fame and glory. There is something fascinating in the manner in which a book alone comes to represent the life of a man and, gradually, the life of a generation, of an epoch, and finally wins a place among the sacred treasures of mankind. There are even times when the name of the author disappears and a poem relentlessly takes its place. Man then becomes legend, just like Macías El Enamorado—only a name and a handful of lyrical poems—the lover *par excellence* in the Spanish tradition. In the Middle Ages another legend flourished, a love of a different character: the love of a boy of nine for a girl of eight from which a poem was to be born that would remain forever among the greatest artistic accomplishments of man. Dante was the boy, Beatrice the girl, and *Vita Nuova* the little book whence the legend sprang. Dante promised that he would say in the *Commedia* what no one had ever said about women. Today there are many who think that Gabriela Mistral has said it in *Desolación*. There is also the legend of a love in this book which is *the* book that led her to the heights of international fame.

“ . . . volverlo a ver, no importa donde,  
en remansos del cielo o en vórtice hervidor  
bajo unas lunas plácidas o en un cádeno  
horror . . . .”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>“ . . . to see him again, no matter where, in heavenly  
glades or in a vortex of fire, under a placid moon or in a  
flaming dread . . . .”

These are Gabriela's words, but it is Dante's world—the world of Francesca and Paolo illuminated by the splendor of another passion, just as intense, as tragic, and as transcendental. Like Francesca, when the time came for the supreme decision, Gabriela defied the divine power by being merciful and pious in the very midst of damnation. She loved when the occasion called for desperation. She refused to be parted. She followed the beloved shadow—he committed suicide—through the paths of earth and heaven, in ecstasy and in tears. It has been said that frustration led her to sublimity, that she found escape in the love of Christ and reward in her love for children. But her love for children is no longer *Desolación*.

There is a realm in her poetry that shines with the joy and the dream which are sheer magic. The realm of miracle in which roses, clouds, waves of the ocean, and songs of birds join to inspire the wanderer before he sets out to discover the world. It is the realm of *Ternura*<sup>2</sup>, the word that our Spanish American children sing. Unconsciously, perhaps, they sing it in praise of her whose life is a living example of courage, strength, and faith.

She was born in a village of Chile 56 years ago among poor and hard-working people. She became a self-educated rural teacher and as such she lived an anonymous existence serving in the most remote places along the coast of Chile. One day

<sup>2</sup> See *Selected Bibliography*, below.



she won a prize in a literary contest. Her poems were published in books designed to teach children to read. She won acclaim as a poet before publishing her works in book form. She went to Mexico as the official guest of the government to take part in educational reforms. Her New York friends of the Instituto de las Españas gathered her poems and published the first edition of *Desolación*. Since then she has been honored by many peoples; she has served in the League of Nations and, as a diplomat, she has represented Chile in both Europe and America. She has been looked upon as the most distinguished woman writer of Latin America and as a great defender of woman's rights. Her poetry has been touched by the fervor of

social reform and it has carried her message wherever the humble, the poor, and the persecuted have clamored for protection. It is a well known fact that all the proceeds obtained from the publication of *Tala*, her third volume of poetry, went for the relief of Basque children who had been left homeless as a result of the Spanish Civil War.

She has shown deep concern for the fate of the Jewish people, perhaps as a result of her long and careful study of the Bible. For her language is undoubtedly Biblical. The Old Testament's river of milk and honey sensually flows deep under many of her songs. The blood of Calvary stains every one of her descriptions of twilight. The night that brought Ruth and Boaz together, with all its disquieting mixture of sensuality and mysticism, became an exciting subject in Gabriela's poem; perhaps more so than in Hugo's. And although her protest against the persecution of the Jews is most genuine and her knowledge of the Bible is profound and filled with admiration, there might be another reason to explain the Biblical nature of her poetry. I do not mean a psychological one. In the critics' interpretation and judgment of her work, the events of her life have weighed much too heavily. The reason might be the Elqui Valley where Gabriela was born; a land that seems to have been lifted from the Bible and set down in Chile for the good of our poetry and the danger of our souls. A valley through whose ample heavens huge clouds race to infinity. A land of warm and strange scents. Elqui produces the sweetest raisins and the most disturbing mystical individualists. It could be the land of the Song of Songs suffering under a blight of human selfishness and injustice. Gabriela has rejoiced in the eternal spring, but has also grieved among the miseries of mankind. She has been pure Chilean when

she has spoken with the voice of the prophets about the inhabitants of the Elqui Valley.

It does not mean that her poetry has a limited appeal. She has proved again that by seeking deep within the individual one reaches what is authentically universal. Men, women, and children of many lands have sensed the grandeur of her art. She has been passionate and violent, sadly tender, profoundly human without ever losing her Christian faith. She has looked into nature with the calm eyes of one who possesses the secret of creation; she has looked at things, great and small, with love and understanding of their mysterious vitality. She has expressed the soul of women more completely and truly than any other poet. Those who fear her tendency to the tragic, the bitter or the rebellious, seem to forget that there is a vision of Gabriela that is gentler and just as romantic. This image belongs perfectly to the saga of our young people struggling in the first quarter of the century amidst social conflicts and political upheavals. Gabriela was then a tall girl with big sad green eyes and delicate angel-hands. She was a rural teacher who read "the Russians," dreamed with Tagore, and lost herself in the remote spiritualism of Nervo. She had a whole world to discover, to fight in, and to conquer. A New World to which she would give the purest essence of a great spirit.

When she received the news of having been awarded the Nobel Prize she said: "It is the New World that has been honoured through me . . . . It is not my victory but America's."

It is indeed a New World victory because the poet of the New World has won.

#### THE PRAYER

Thou knowest, Lord, with what flaming boldness,  
my word invokes Thy help for strangers.  
I come now to plead for one who was mine,  
my cup of freshness, honeycomb of my mouth,

lime of my bones, sweet reason of life's journey,  
bird-trill to my ears, girdle of my garment.  
Even those who are no part of me are in my care.  
Harden not Thine eyes if I plead with Thee for  
this one!

He was a good man, I say he was a man  
whose heart was entirely open; a man  
gentle in temper, frank as the light of day,  
as filled with miracles as the spring of the year.

Thou answerest harshly that he is unworthy of  
entreaty  
who did not anoint with prayer his fevered lips,  
who went away that evening without waiting for  
Thy sign,  
his temples shattered like fragile goblets.

But I, my Lord, protest that I have touched,—  
just like the spikenard of his brow,—  
his whole gentle and tormented heart:  
and it was silky as a nascent bud!

Thou sayest that he was cruel? Thou forgettest,  
Lord, that I loved him,  
and that he knew my wounded heart was wholly  
his.

He troubled for ever the waters of my gladness?  
It does not matter! Thou knowest: I loved him, I  
loved him!

And to love (Thou knowest it well) is a bitter  
exercise;  
a pressing of eyelids wet with tears,  
a kissing-alive of hairshirt tresses,  
keeping, below them, the ecstatic eyes.

The piercing iron has a welcome chill,  
when it opens, like sheaves of grain, the loving  
flesh.

And the cross (Thou rememberest, O King of the  
Jews!)  
is softly borne, like a spray of roses.

Here I rest, Lord, my face bowed down  
to the dust, talking with Thee through the  
twilight,  
through all the twilights that may stretch through  
life,  
if Thou art long in telling me the word I await.

I shall weary Thine ears with prayers and sobs;  
a timid greyhound, I shall lick Thy mantle's hem.  
Thy loving eyes can not escape me,  
Thy foot avoid the hot rain of my tears.

Speak at last the word of pardon! It will scatter  
in the wind the perfume of a hundred fragrant  
vials

as it empties; all waters will be dazzling;  
the wilderness will blossom, the cobblestones will  
sparkle.

The dark eyes of wild beasts will moisten,  
and the conscious mountain that Thou didst forge  
from stone

will weep through the white eyelids of its snow-  
drifts;

Thy whole earth will know that Thou hast  
forgiven!

*Translated by Donald Devenish Walsh from "Desolación." Reprinted, by permission, from Anthology of Contemporary Latin-American Poetry, edited by Dudley Fitts. Copyright, New Directions, 1942.*

*This book contains a translation of another poem by Gabriela Mistral.*

### TO THE CHILDREN

Many years hence, when I am a little heap of  
silent dust, play with me, with the earth of my  
heart and of my bones!

If a mason gathers me up, he will make me into  
a brick, and I shall remain fast forever in a wall;  
and I hate quiet niches. If they make me a brick  
in a prison, I shall grow red with shame when I  
hear a man sob; and if I am a brick in a school,  
I shall still suffer, because I cannot sing with you  
in the early mornings.

I would rather be the dust with which you play,  
on the country roads. Clasp me, for I have been  
yours; unmake me, for I made you; trample upon  
me, because I did not give you the whole of beauty  
and the whole of truth! Or only sing and run  
above me, so that I may kiss your beloved feet.

When you hold me in your hands, recite some  
beautiful verse, and I shall rustle with delight  
between your fingers. I shall rise up to look at  
you, seeking among you the eyes, the hair of those  
whom I taught.

And when you make any image out of me, break  
it every moment; for every moment the children  
broke me, with tenderness and grief!

### THE JARS

Now you find, along the river, red clay and  
black clay; now you are modelling it into jars,  
with shining eyes. Potter, make a jar for all men;  
for each needs one like his own heart.

Make the jar of the countryman, with a strong  
handle, and a contour rounded like a child's  
cheek. It will not surprise the beholder as a thing  
of charm; but it will be the Jar of Health.

Make the jar of the sensualist; make it glowing as  
the flesh of a lover; but, to purify its instinct, give  
it a spiritual lip, a light lip.

Make the jar of the sorrowful; make it simple as a  
tear, without a fold, without a colored border; for  
its master will not look upon its beauty. And  
knead it out of the mould of dead leaves, so that  
when he drinks he may find the odor of the  
autumns, which is the very fragrance of his heart.

Make the jar of the miserable,—rough, like a  
fist, torn with smiting, and bloody like the  
pomegranate. It will be the Jar of Protest.

And make the jar of Leopardi, the jar of the  
tortured ones, that no love has been able to fill.  
Make them a vessel in which they will see their  
own hearts, that they may hate themselves the  
more. Neither wine nor water will fall into it, for  
it will be the Jar of Desolation.

And its emptied breast will trouble him who  
looks upon it more than if it were brimming with  
blood.

*From Motivos del Barro*

*These two translations of prose poems in "Motivos del Barro" are from "Some Spanish-American Poets", translated by Alice Stone Blackwell, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1937. Copy. Reprinted by permission.*

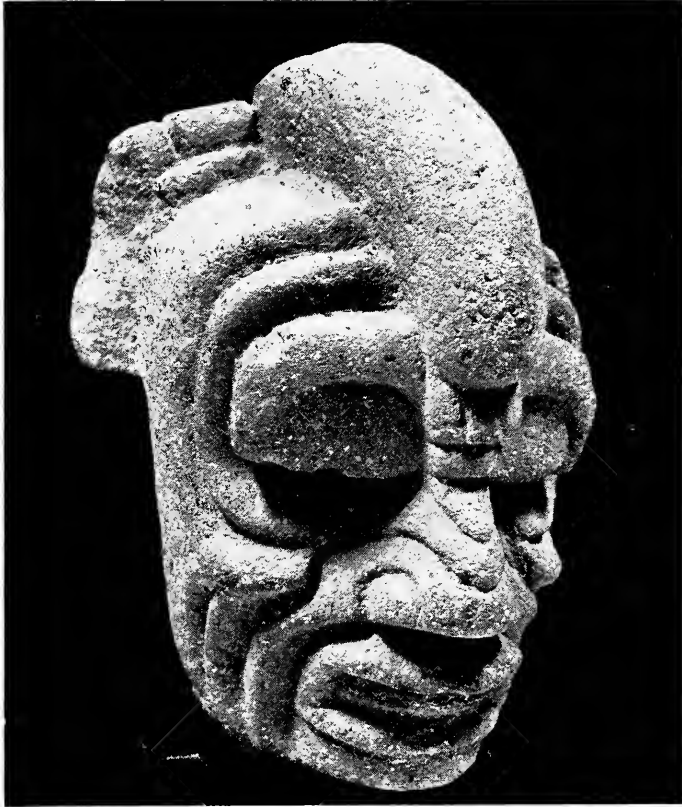
*This book contains translations of several other poems by Gabriela Mistral.*

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Courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art

### THE WIND GOD

A stone sculpture, probably from Guerrero, Mexico, presented to the Cleveland Museum of Art by Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Wise.

## “Art of the Americas”

MARIE KIRKWOOD

“ART OF THE AMERICAS,” which displays over two hundred objects of the arts of Mexico, Central, and South America before the coming of the white man, is the title of an exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Art, November 9, 1945 through January 6, 1946. The Museum, using its own collection as a nucleus, borrowed for the exhibition from other leading museums and collectors of the country.

William M. Milliken, director of the Cleveland Museum, points out that while we know little of the mysterious histories of the ancient inhabitants of the Americas, and there is much confusion about them in archaeology, within the last decade the world has waked up to the extraordinary beauty of many examples of their arts. With this in mind, the Museum has gathered a number of fine items in the

various fields. A considerable proportion of these consists of gifts and permanent loans from the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb. Mr. Norweb, long in the United States diplomatic service, is now Ambassador to Cuba. Mrs. Norweb, a Cleveland woman, is a member of a family which has been devoted and generous to the Cleveland Museum since its founding.

Besides the Norweb gifts, the Cleveland Museum has received splendid objects in the pre-Columbian field from Edward Belden Greene and Miss Helen Humphreys, and has made purchases through its J. H. Wade and James Albert Ford Funds. Coincident with the opening of "Art of the Americas," announcement is made of the gift from Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Wise of Cleveland of a fine sculpture, *The Wind God*, probably from Guerrero in Mexico.

The exhibition is displayed in masterly fashion, the small objects in cases against backgrounds of raspberry red, jade green, or dull sand. It is remarkable to note how characteristic of pottery, textiles, and

beadwork these colors are, and they make stunning backgrounds also for articles of gold, silver, stone, and wood. The featherwork alone is in bright decided tints, of glorious orange, bright blue, and verdant green.

There is little large sculpture, because of the difficulties of transporting it, but the objects of stone, jade, and sandstone bespeak most eloquently the skill of the primitive worker. Among the largest sculptures are Mexican pieces: the American Museum of Natural History's *Corn Goddess*, from the Valley of Mexico; a *Warrior with Club* (Tarascan Culture), lent by Sylvanus G. Morley; and three magnificent yokes, belonging respectively to the Cleveland Museum, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and Heeramanek Galleries.

The gold is truly sumptuous. The exquisite "hummingbird necklace," from Mexico, was lent by the Honorable Robert Woods Bliss and Mrs. Bliss. Gold ornaments from Panama, Colombia, Honduras, and Peru are numerous and of fine quality.

Most of the textiles in this exhibition are



Courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art

A PERUVIAN NECKLACE  
Lent by Mrs. R. Henry Norweb



Courtesy of the University Museum

GOLD PLAQUE FROM COCLÉ, PANAMA  
Lent by the University Museum, Philadelphia

Peruvian. These specimens show patterns woven in many techniques, embroidered, painted, or worked in feathers.

The pottery tells us something of the lives of the peoples, but in the greater part of its design, and this is true of all the other

arts, the observer is constantly charmed and aggravated by the mysterious, multifarious symbolism. Many of the designs—beautiful, fantastic, terrifying, often even gaily humorous—must have had meanings of which no hint has come down to us.



Courtesy of the University Museum

MARBLE VASE FROM THE UHÍA RIVER,  
HONDURAS

This famous vase, the finest of its type, was lent by the University Museum, Philadelphia. Each handle represents two intertwined animals, apparently a reptile in the claws of a jaguar.

# The Inter-American Bar Association Holds Its Fourth Conference

GEORGE MAURICE MORRIS and WILLIAM ROY VALLANCE

INDICATING a "coming of age" and setting a sound working pattern for future meetings the Inter-American Bar Association held its highly gratifying and stimulating Fourth Conference at Santiago, Chile from October 20 to October 27, 1945. Thanks to the splendid organization of the meeting and program by the Colegio de Abogados de Chile led by President Oscar Dávila I., the meeting was adequately housed and efficiently operated to reasoned and well considered conclusions. The results were accompanied by a cordial and royal (if "royal" is an appropriate term for such a markedly democratic gathering) entertainment, both public and individual, offered by the lawyers of Santiago and Valparaíso, government officials and members of the diplomatic corps in Chile. Understanding and fellowship among the lawyers of the Americas was definitely advanced.

In the Hall of Honor of the National Congress of Chile, more than five hundred delegates from bar associations of the American hemisphere assembled for the opening plenary session at Santiago on Sunday, October 21, 1945. Vice President Alfredo Duhalde Vásquez, Acting President in the absence abroad of President Ríos of Chile, Dr. Joaquín Fernández y Fernández, Minister of Foreign Relations, Dr. Enrique Arriagada Saldías, Minister of Justice, members of the Supreme Court of Chile, representatives of the diplomatic corps and many persons prominent in international and legal circles of the host country were on hand to respond to the

impressive calling of the roll of association members by the Secretary General, which marks the opening of each Conference of the Association.

The Conference functioned (and worked hard) through seventeen committees (round tables), to which definite topics had been assigned, with reporters designated to submit papers on each topic. This method of procedure proved highly satisfactory as it minimized discussion of irrelevant and ill-considered subjects and produced resolutions which were the result of careful study and discussion by persons specializing in the subject matter. The resolutions of the round tables were then considered by the Council, composed of forty-four delegates, elected as representatives of the member associations. Resolutions adopted by the committees (round tables) and approved by the Council were submitted to the Assembly for action.

Some ninety resolutions were adopted by the Conference. They dealt with immigration, nationality and naturalization, taxation, administrative law and procedure, commercial treaties and customs law, national centers for legal documents, bibliographical indices of law materials, comparative constitutional law, communications (including aviation, radio, highway, and shipping transportation), industrial, economic and social legislation, penal law and procedure, territorial waters and ocean fisheries, admiralty law, activities of lawyers' associations, intellectual and industrial pro-

perty (copyright, patents, and trademarks), legal education, comparison of civil and commercial law (including the law of trusts and trustees and unification of the law of commercial obligations and the civil status of persons), municipal law, and postwar juridical problems.

A summary of a few of the resolutions adopted by the Conference follows. It was voted:

That the American republics arrange in a reciprocal way the entrance into or exit from their territories by the nationals of the other American republics on temporary trips without any other requisites except their identification cards.

That information be obtained regarding the national tax laws of the American countries on international business in order that a complete study of such laws may be made with a view to drafting model statutes for consideration by the respective countries for incorporation in national legislation.

That a permanent commission be established consisting of representatives of each government to study the possibilities of creating a customs union of the Western Hemisphere and also for the study of the possibility of establishing uniform legislation pertaining to customs crimes and misdemeanors.

That each state organize procedure whereby legal security will be obtained in the field of labor, giving preference to the procedure of conciliation as a necessary condition before engaging in litigation procedures.

That an effort be made to harmonize the laws of the American countries with respect to maritime credits and their classification and privileges, and that uniformity of laws referring to credits which have a lien on vessels should be urged by member associations.

That the several American countries introduce as soon as possible in their laws the changes necessary in order that the rights conferred by patents of invention, industrial models, and commercial trademarks may be protected against infringements, imitation, and other similar violations.

That the draft of a "fundamental charter of the American continent" and other related papers be referred to the Pan American Union for considera-

tion in connection with the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace.

That a declaration of the international rights and duties of the individual and of international persons be promulgated.

That the respective governments accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice for all matters referred to in Article 36 of the statute of that Court.

That international agreements be adopted leading to the humanization of war when it cannot be avoided, the use being prohibited of destructive means which render impossible the defense of the civilian as well as that of hospitals, schools, churches, asylums, etc.

That the Inter-American Juridical Committee sitting at Rio de Janeiro study an agreement relative to the internationalization of atomic fission and the establishment of an international organization which will control its application so that it will not be used in new wars, but for the progress of humanity, and as a means of preventing new wars.

Bar associations were urged to take an active interest in bringing about the exchange of professors and students among the law schools of the Americas, and proposals, regarding the credits to be given to exchange students in the law schools of the Americas were recommended for further study. Particular interest was manifested in the success of the Academy of International and Comparative Law, which will hold its second annual session at Habana, Cuba, in February 1946.

Considerable progress was reported in the preparation of a Spanish-English, English-Spanish legal dictionary under the guidance of the Mexican Bar Association. The Brazilian delegation undertook to prepare a Portuguese-Spanish and Portuguese-English text.

Special interest in the Conference was shown by the judges of the Supreme Court of Chile. The delegates were present at a special session of the Chilean Supreme Court at which an address was delivered by the Chief Justice, with a response by a

member of the Supreme Court of Mexico. These were followed by a reception and luncheon given by the Court, at which the delegates were privileged to meet the judges of the Court informally and to obtain information regarding its procedure and functions. Among the many other outstanding events was the ball given by Dr. Fernández y Fernández, Minister of Foreign Affairs, at the magnificent Cousiño Palace.

Hosts at receptions, cocktails, luncheons and banquets included the Directors of the Club Hípico de Santiago at the race course, the Colegio de Abogados de Chile at the Club de la Unión, the Directors of Chile Films at the studios, the ambassadors of many of the American republics at the embassies, Señor Dávila, president of the Association, and his wife, in the charming gardens of their home, the Law Schools of the University of Chile and of the Catholic University, the Minister of Justice in the Hotel Carrera, the Colegio de Abogados de Valparaíso in the Parque del Salitre and the great hall of the Hotel O'Higgins, and the Municipality of Valparaíso. This is not to mention the many private parties in homes and country places. The capacity of the hosts to give and of the guests to take evoked expressions of astonishment.

Owing to existing conditions in Argentina, the delegates of the Federación Argentina de Colegios de Abogados had decided that they should not attend the Conference. Their papers, however, were presented and considered by the various round tables. As a consequence, at the closing plenary session of the Conference the following resolution was adopted:

That it be declared that the bar associations of the Republic of Argentina, by reason of the quality of the papers presented by their members, and of their work for the progress of the Association, have

been present at this Fourth Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association, leaving, by their work in its debates, the most commendable interest in the rule of Liberty and Right.

Four important new member organizations were admitted, namely the Quebec Bar Association, the Instituto da Ordem dos Advogados de Rio Grande do Sul, the Instituto da Ordem dos Advogados de Minas Gerais, and the Women Lawyers' Association of Michigan.

The Hon. Antonio Talbot of the Quebec Bar Association, who had traveled the greatest distance to the Conference, delivered an address in French at the Law School of the Catholic University of Chile and emphasized the similarity of the fundamental legal concepts of the nations of this hemisphere.

The Conference accepted the invitation of the Colegio de Abogados de Lima to hold the Fifth Conference in that city. (President Bustamante of Peru was a delegate to the Second Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association held at Rio de Janeiro in 1943.) Dr. Óscar Dávila I. was continued as President pending the expected election in December of a President of the Lima association. Upon the event of that election the office of President of the Inter-American Bar Association is expected to devolve upon the new president of the Lima Association. Messrs. George Maurice Morris and William Roy Vallance of the United States and Miguel Macedo of Mexico were reelected as Chairman of the Executive Committee, Secretary General and Treasurer, respectively. The following were elected Assistant Secretaries General:

Dr. Oswaldo Trigueiro, Brazil.  
 Dr. Mario Tagle Valdés, Chile.  
 Dr. Enrique Dolz, Cuba.  
 Dr. Luis J. Creel Luján, Mexico.  
 Dr. Dantès Bellegarde, Haiti.  
 Dr. Enrique García Sayán, Peru.

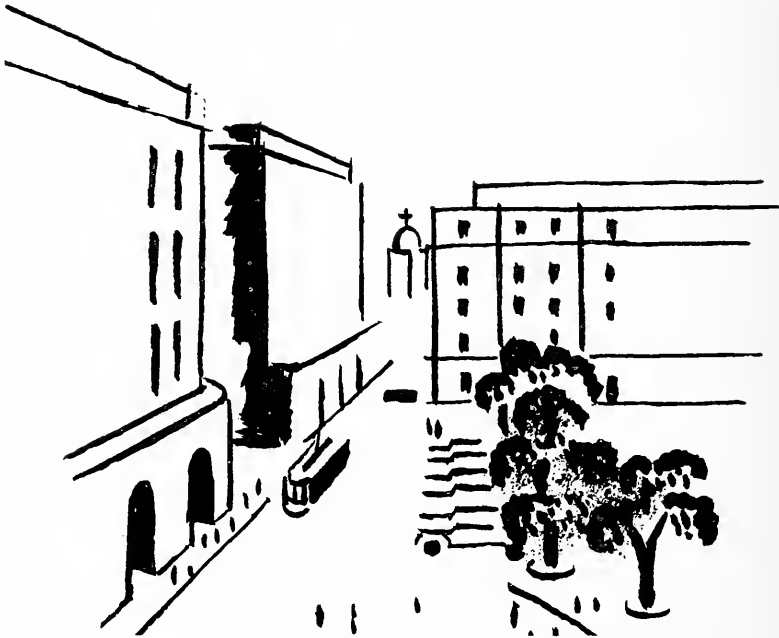


Henry F. Butler of the United States was elected Assistant Treasurer.

The excellent organization and able management of the Conference deserve special praise. Delegates were registered promptly and were issued a printed pamphlet in Spanish or English containing full information regarding the Conference program, the places at which meetings were held, and matters of general interest about Santiago. Invitations to the numerous functions and copies of papers considered by the various round tables were distributed through a post-box system at

the headquarters. The work of the various groups proceeded smoothly and, in so far as practicable, translators were provided for the different committees.

The Fourth Conference is considered to have been an outstanding success and to have established a high record of achievement. During the enjoyable social events, many friendships among the lawyers of this hemisphere were created and others cemented. There is something in the experience of both working and playing with a man which gives reality to the word "neighbor" in our inter-American relations.



# Argentina's Cottage Homes for Children

NEGLEY K. TEETERS

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DURING the past fifteen years Argentina has stepped out in front in a most significant way to help her neglected and abandoned children become good citizens. Her cottage institutions, *colonias-hogares*, are known far and wide for their progressive insight into the training of children up to eighteen years of age.

Argentina, following the traditional philosophy practiced in all South American countries, regards the delinquent child as a neglected child. The dependent, the abused, the abandoned, and the delinquent are all assumed to be victims of someone's neglect. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the state to act *in loco parentis*. Hence, the children coming under its jurisdiction through the Children's Courts are all treated alike and are under the guardianship of the great organization known as the Patronato Nacional de Menores. Its president is Dr. Carlos de Arenaza, and its headquarters are at Santa Fe 880, in the city of Buenos Aires.

The pioneer in this humane work was Dr. Jorge Eduardo Coll, who has long been concerned with the neglected child. Dr. Coll was the author of the 1929 Act which created the Patronato Nacional de Menores and became its first president. He is also a former Minister of Justice. While he holds no public office today, he still maintains a keen interest in the work of the institutions established for the protection and training of children.

Perhaps the most famous of the schools conducted by the Patronato is the Colonia Hogar Ricardo Gutiérrez, situated some

twenty-five miles from the city of Buenos Aires but within the province of the same name. This institution was opened in 1924 and has served as a model for schools established later under the Act of 1929. Named in honor of a prominent physician who took a particular interest in children, this school, or colony, occupies a most beautiful site of several hundred acres. Well laid out roads, groves of fruit trees, many fertile acres form the setting for the dainty but durable white cottages and other buildings which make up the plant of this interesting project in child care.

The Director of the Colonia, Señor Felipe M. Giana, is a prominent educator, a man who understands boys. He comprehends too his grave responsibility to society for returning his charges to the workaday world better prepared for life's battles in centers of higher education, industry, and the professions. He sees the function of his school as that of giving the underprivileged boys sent there a well rounded course of training and instruction. Each boy is treated as an individual. The old philosophy of mass training, too prevalent throughout the world, has long since been abandoned, since it has become established that all boys and girls have rights as real persons.

The visitor to the Colonia Hogar Ricardo Gutiérrez is immediately impressed with the plant and equipment. He approaches the school under overhanging old shade trees that line the road leading to the administration building just beyond the entrance. The buildings are small but



### ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

The Ricardo Gutiérrez colony presents an attractive appearance.



### A COTTAGE HOME FOR GIRLS

Argentina's system of homes for delinquent and neglected children is highly successful.

Courtesy of Negley K. Teeters

modern and particularly attractive, from the comfortable administration building and director's residence, which the new boy sees first, to the various cottages, school, theater, and chapel. The institution's population, on the average between five and six hundred, is divided into small family groups according to age and occupation. A homelike atmosphere pervades the entire establishment. Each cottage is supervised by a married couple whose main function is to maintain a home for the small number of boys assigned to it.

The new boy, upon entering, is given a

number of standard and conventional tests, medical, psychological, psychiatric, and social, equivalent to the best procedure found in similar institutions of our own country. A course of treatment following the recommendations of the expert examiners is then arranged by the administrative and instructional officers. A complete day-by-day record of the boy's achievements — and shortcomings — in school, shop, athletic field, and cottage is maintained so that Señor Giana can see at a glance which boys need more specialized care. The Director and his entire

staff have a fundamental and special concern for each boy, a fact quite obvious to the discerning visitor.

The school building, modern in every respect and most attractive both from the outside as well as in its interior equipment and furnishings, is staffed by competent and understanding teachers who follow what is commonly referred to in the United States as the progressive method of individualized study. Each classroom has pretty curtains at the windows and is gaily decorated with flags, paintings, and modeling, to a great extent the work of the children. It is obvious that the children like their courses of instruction; the informality is both striking and satisfying, especially to one who has seen so much formal and even repressive instruction in schools of this type in our own country.

One interesting activity in the school is puppetry. This is understandable since Javier Villafañe, the Argentine master of marionettes, has created so much enthusiasm in this field of art during the past ten years that over five hundred schools throughout the country have made it an integral part of the curriculum.

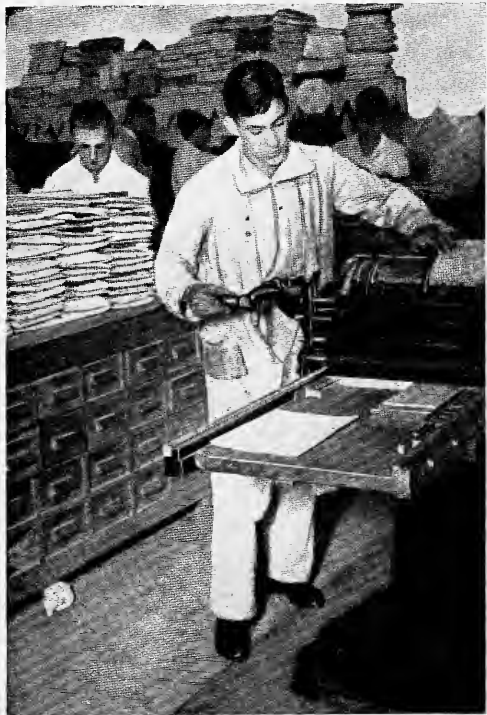
The Ricardo Gutiérrez colony is especially proud of its athletic achievements. With a large outdoor gymnasium and playing field, football, basketball, and track and aquatic sports are an essential element in everyday living. Keen rivalry exists between the cottages, and athletic heroes, of whom there are many, are awarded special recognition and honor for their prowess. Drill, wand exercise, and calisthenics executed to the stirring music of a capable band make an inspiring sight for the visitor.

In addition to the regular academic studies, shop work is another serious part of the institution's course of training. Attractively designed shops, well equipped, lighted, and ventilated, are beehives of

activity a large portion of the day, especially for the older boys. Skilled instructors teach the trades—tailoring, ironwork, ceramics, printing, wagon and cart making, and plumbing.

But agriculture and animal husbandry are also major occupations. Boys are taught modern methods of farming, and the raising of purebred cattle (so close to the hearts of all Argentines), poultry raising, and beekeeping are all a part of the training program.

The art work is especially outstanding. Water color painting, modeling, and china painting are highspots in the course of instruction. Scenes from the pampas, from the lives of the native *vaqueros*, the Argentine cowboys, furnish strong and romantic motifs for the boys, many of whom come



Courtesy of Negley K. Teeters

#### LEARNING A TRADE

Agriculture and a number of trades are taught in the Argentine cottage homes.

from rural areas and know at first hand the life of the cattle country.

Discipline is no problem in the school. True, boys sometimes get into trouble but, unless they persist, they are handled by means of sympathetic and wise counselling. Those who continue to be obstreperous are transferred to the colony's annex known as *El Retiro*, separate and distinct but nearby. Here a closely supervised régime undertakes to straighten out those who cannot appreciate the joys of normal group living.

But there are other colonies besides Ricardo Gutiérrez, although it is the fame of this one that has spread abroad, since it ranks high among the best of its kind in the entire world. There is also, for example, the sister school of Santa Rita for girls, at Boulogne, in the country not far from the city of Buenos Aires. This school can accommodate about 150 girls between the ages of six and eighteen. Another school for girls is Santa Rosa, located on Calle Belgrano, within the city. Weaving, sewing, and the domestic arts, in addition to regular grade-school instruction, make up the curriculum. The same careful examinations, the same classification procedure, and the same sympathetic understanding in connection with treatment and training as in Ricardo Gutiérrez may be found in these two schools for girls.

The first *colonia-hogar* provided for by the Act of 1929 was given the name of Juan B. Alberdi. Since it was set up in 1932 many of these progressive units in the Patronato system have been developed. Today the number of children cared for in the various schools is around 1,500. Besides those mentioned above there are

Carlos Pellegrini at Pilar; Mariana Ortiz Basualdo, at Las Armas; Cayetano Zibecchi at Juárez; a school for artisans; and a new colony, known as Los Arenales, only recently opened.

The programs of these schools are essentially the same. They are designed primarily to train that portion of the country's youth that has been handicapped by poor homes or by parental indifference or neglect, so as to enable these boys and girls to take their places, when prepared adequately, in industry and the arts.

It is significant that while religious instruction forms a large part of the school program, the personnel through which the administration functions is made up of laymen rather than of members of religious orders. This is true also of the equally famous Ciudad del Niño (Children's City) in Santiago, Chile and the Model Reformatory and the small but progressive institution called Educandario Dom Duarte, both in São Paulo, Brazil.

It is to Dr. Jorge Eduardo Coll, the pioneer in this children's movement, and to Señor José Pirovano, his good friend, that I am indebted for my trips to the *colonias-hogares*. Dr. Coll watches the development of the children in these institutions with a sense of satisfaction and pride. As he told me, while we discussed the problems of delinquency and child neglect, "No country can afford to neglect its youth, the promise of its future. We sense our responsibility in providing as nearly as possible a normal family life, since we recognize the tremendous importance of the family in rearing the citizens of tomorrow."

# The Americas and the War

TO KEEP the readers of the BULLETIN informed of the various measures dealing with the war and its effects taken by the American Republics since the United States was attacked by Japan on December 7, 1941, a continuing list is being compiled of laws, decrees, acts, orders, and resolutions published in official gazettes or noted in other publications received at the Pan American Union. While it is attempted to make each monthly installment of the compilation as complete as possible, it is inevitable that some measures should be omitted, because of uncertain mails and other difficulties.

When a reference stands by itself in parentheses, it is the official source for an item for which an unofficial source was previously given. In order to preserve the numbering of the measures mentioned in the preceding issues, items listed in this number whose dates fall between those of measures already published are inserted with letters following the number.

The official gazettes of the Latin Ameri-

can countries are as follows: Argentina, *Boletín Oficial*; Brazil, *Diário Oficial*; Chile, *Diario Oficial*; Colombia, *Diario Oficial*; Costa Rica, *Gaceta Oficial*; Cuba, *Gaceta Oficial*; Dominican Republic, *Gaceta Oficial*; El Salvador, *Diario Oficial*; Ecuador, *Registro Oficial*; Guatemala, *Diario de Centro América*; Haiti, *Le Moniteur*; Honduras, *La Gaceta*; Mexico, *Diario Oficial*; Nicaragua, *La Gaceta*; Panama, *Gaceta Oficial*; Paraguay, *Gaceta Oficial*; Peru, *El Peruano*; Uruguay, *Diario Oficial*; and Venezuela, *Gaceta Oficial*.

No items are given for the United States except under *Bilateral and Multilateral Measures*.

The list was begun in the April 1942 number of the BULLETIN, and omissions will be supplied as information is received from official or other sources. When notice of a measure has been taken from an unofficial account, the official source will be given as soon as it is available.

This list will be concluded as of V-J Day, September 2, 1945.

## PART XLVI

### ARGENTINA

41. (Correction) December 2, 1942. Presidential Decree No. 137,500. (Mentioned in *Boletín Oficial*, September 5, 1945.)

253a. June 2, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 12,138, approving the notes exchanged May 9, 1945, with the United States diplomatic representative in Buenos Aires, establishing an agreement for an exchange of Argentine linseed and by-products for fuel oil (see *Bilateral and Multilateral Measures* 211, Bulletin, August 1945). (*Boletín Oficial*, July 11, 1945.)

256a. June 22, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 13,447, repealing legislation which granted juridical personality to the Axis-owned firm Hugo

Stinnes, Sociedad Anónima Comercial e Industrial, and providing that the Administrative Council take over its property. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 13, 1945.)

261a. June 28, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 14,388, providing for the immediate transfer to the Bank of Argentina of all deposits in the German Transatlantic Bank and the German Bank of South America which are subject to restrictions; authorizing the Central Bank of Argentina to take the necessary steps to apply the funds of those banking houses to the repayment of deposits and cancellation of other obligations, and to proceed to the conversion of their property assets into cash; and providing that within 30 days their authoriza-



*Severences of Diplomatic Relations, Declarations of War, and Signature of the Joint Declaration by the United Nations*

	SEVERENCES OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS				DECLARATIONS OF WAR OR STATE OF BELLIGERENCY <sup>8 12</sup>			Signature of the Joint Declaration by the United Nations
	Germany and Italy	Japan	Bulgaria Hungary Rumania	Vichy France <sup>1</sup>	Germany and Italy	Japan	Bulgaria <sup>2</sup> Rumania <sup>3</sup> Hungary <sup>4</sup>	
Argentina.....	<sup>5</sup> 1-26-44	1-26-44	2-4-44	2-4-44	G-3-27-45	3-27-45	.....	.....
Bolivia.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	.....	.....	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43	.....	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43
Brazil.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	(?)	.....	8-22-42	6-6-45	.....	2-6-43
Chile.....	1-20-43	1-20-43	5-18-43	5-18-43	<sup>8</sup> G-2-12-45	<sup>8</sup> 2-12-45 <sup>14</sup> 4-5-45	.....	2-14-45
Colombia.....	12-19-41	12-8-41	.....	11-26-42	G-11-27-43	.....	.....	1-17-44
Costa Rica.....	.....	.....	H-5-15-42 R-5-15-42	.....	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	11-9-42	12-11-41	12-9-41	.....	1-1-42
Dominican Republic.....	.....	.....	.....	11-26-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Ecuador.....	1-29-42	1-29-42	.....	.....	.....	<sup>9</sup> 12-7-41	.....	2-14-45
El Salvador.....	.....	.....	.....	11-13-42	12-12-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Guatemala.....	.....	.....	.....	11-12-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Haiti.....	.....	.....	.....	11-10-42	12-12-41	12-8-41	12-24-41	1-1-42
Honduras.....	.....	.....	.....	11-13-42	12-13-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Mexico.....	12-11-41	12-8-41	B-12-20-41 H-12-19-41 ( <sup>10</sup> )	11-9-42	5-22-42	5-22-42	.....	6-14-42
Nicaragua.....	.....	.....	.....	11-10-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	12-19-41	1-1-42
Panama.....	.....	.....	.....	1-13-42	12-12-41	<sup>11</sup> 12-7-41	.....	1-1-42
Paraguay.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	.....	.....	G-2-7-45	2-7-45	.....	2-14-45
Peru.....	1-24-42	1-24-42	.....	1-26-43	<sup>12</sup> G-2-11-45	<sup>12</sup> 2-11-45	.....	2-14-45
United States.....	.....	.....	.....	( <sup>13</sup> )	12-11-41	12-8-41	6-5-42	1-1-42
Uruguay.....	1-25-42	1-25-42	.....	5-12-43	2-22-45	2-22-45	.....	2-24-45
Venezuela.....	12-31-41	12-31-41	.....	11-26-42	<sup>8</sup> 2-14-45	<sup>8</sup> 2-14-45	.....	2-20-45

<sup>1</sup> Evacuation of the German-controlled Vichy Government was reported to be complete by August 18, 1944. The French Committee of National Liberation, which on June 2, 1944, voted to change its name to the Provisional Government of the French Republic, headed by General de Gaulle, had already begun to assume the functions of government, having worked in cooperation with General Eisenhower, Allied Commander in Chief, through liaison officers following the start of the Allied invasion of France on D-Day, June 6, 1944. (*New York Times*, May 16, June 3, August 19, 1944.)

<sup>2</sup> Bulgaria ceased hostilities with the U.S.S.R. on September 9, 1944; severed relations with Germany on September 6, 1944 and with Hungary on September 26, 1944; and then ceased hostilities against all other United Nations. At Moscow on October 28, 1944, Bulgaria accepted the armistice terms presented by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.S.R. on behalf of all the United Nations at war with Bulgaria. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, October 29, 1944.)

<sup>3</sup> Under the terms of an armistice signed at Moscow September 12, 1944, Rumania, as of August 24, 1944, withdrew from the war against the United Nations, broke off relations with Germany and its satellites, and entered the war on the side of the Allied Powers against Germany and Hungary. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, September 17, 1944.)

<sup>4</sup> Under the terms of an armistice signed at Moscow, January 20, 1945, between the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States on the one hand and Hungary on the other, Hungary withdrew from the war against the U.S.S.R. and other United Nations, including Czechoslovakia, severed all relations with Germany, and declared war on Germany. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, January 21, 1945.)

<sup>5</sup> Argentina severed relations with Germany and Japan only, since Italy had severed relations with Germany on October 13, 1943, and was thenceforth considered a co-belligerent by the United Nations.

<sup>6</sup> The decree of April 7, 1943, by which a state of war was declared to exist between Bolivia and the Axis powers, and under which the Bolivian Government adhered to the United Nations Declaration, was sanctioned by the Bolivian Congress on November 26, 1943, and on December 4, 1943, a decree was promulgated formally declaring that Bolivia is at war with the Axis. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, December 11, 1943.)

<sup>7</sup> Rumania and Hungary severed diplomatic relations with Brazil on March 6 and May 5, 1942, respectively. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 20, 1943.)

<sup>8</sup> State of belligerency.

<sup>9</sup> Ecuador declared war on Japan February 2, 1945, retroactive to December 7, 1941.

<sup>10</sup> Mexico had no treaty of friendship or diplomatic relations with Rumania. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 20 1943.)

<sup>11</sup> Panama declared war on December 10, 1941, retroactive to December 7.

<sup>12</sup> "State of effective belligerency."

<sup>13</sup> The Vichy Government severed diplomatic relations with the United States on November 8, 1942. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 14, 1942.)

<sup>14</sup> Declaration of war on Japan by the Chilean Senate.

tion to operate as banks will be rescinded. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 2, 1945.)

267a. July 12, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 15,035, amending Presidential Decree No. 13,941 of May 31, 1944 (see Argentina 123, Bulletin, October and November 1944) regarding the Comodoro Rivadavia Military Zone. (*Boletín Oficial*, July 17, 1945.)

275. July 18, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 15,745, providing for the creation of a register of charcoal producers, consignees, wholesalers, and retailers, in order to facilitate control of charcoal distribution. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 4, 1945.)

276. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,454, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Aceros Roehling Buderus, S. A. to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

277. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,455, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned enterprise La Química Bayer, S. A. to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

278. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,456, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Ribereña del Plata, S. A., to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

279. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,457, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm A. E. G. Compañía Argentina de Electricidad, S. A., to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

280. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,458, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Tungal, Sociedad Anónima Minera, to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

281. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,459, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Orbis, S. A. Industrial Metalúrgica, to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

282. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,460, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Stover Argentina, Sociedad Anónima Comercial e Industrial, to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

283. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,461, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Edificio Germánico, Com-

pañía Inmobiliaria, S. A., to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 6, 1945.)

284. July 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 16,743, revoking the juridical personality of the Axis-owned insurance companies El Fénix Sudamericano; the Germano Argentina; La Internacional, S. A.; La Protectora, S. A.; rescinding authorization granted the Mannheim, Aachen, and Munich companies to operate in the insurance field; and providing that the Ministry of the Treasury shall proceed to the immediate liquidation of those companies. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 11, 1945.)

285. August 4, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 17,866, repealing the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Fominco, Sociedad Anónima Comercial, Industrial y Minera Americana, to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 13, 1945.)

286. August 8, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 18,290, maintaining the 20 percent reduction on agricultural rents (as of July 1, 1940) first put into effect by Presidential Decree No. 14,001 of November 12, 1943 (see Argentina 98g, BULLETIN, April 1944) to help the rural population suffering from war conditions; grouping and coordinating in this decree the provisions of the previous legislation on this subject, the present decree to be in effect from January 1, 1946, to December 31, 1946, or until the end of the 1946 harvest; repealing Presidential Decrees Nos. 14,001 of November 12, 1943 (see above); 15,707 of December 11, 1943; 6,126, of March 10, 1944; 14,682 of June 6, 1944; 15,546 of June 30, 1944; and 17,066 of June 30, 1944 (see Argentina 98h, 106a, 126, 141, and 142, BULLETIN, April, July, and November 1944, October and November 1945). (*Boletín Oficial*, August 27, 1945.)

287. August 9, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 17,867, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Wayss y Freytag, Empresa Constructora, S. A., to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 21, 1945.)

288. August 9, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 18,322, amending Presidential Decree No. 4,661 of August 6, 1943 (see Argentina 87n, BULLETIN, February 1944), regarding maximum prices and specifications of reclassified jute bags. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 22, 1945.)

289. August 9, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 18,504, extending for another year the effectiveness of Decree No. 141,408 of January 23, 1943 (see Argentina 54b, BULLETIN, September 1943),

which authorized longer working hours in the copper industry. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 21, 1945.)

290. August 14, 1945. Executive Decree No. 18,849, declaring August 15 and 16 holidays and making other appropriate provisions to celebrate the victory of the United Nations. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 29, 1945.)

291. August 15, 1945. Executive Decree No. 18,848, establishing regulations for the application of Presidential Decree No. 14,630 of June 5, 1944 (see Argentina 124, BULLETIN, October and November 1944), regarding development and protection for industries of "national interest." (*Boletín Oficial*, August 23, 1945.)

292. August 22, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,160, placing at the disposal of the Governments of the United States and Great Britain the German submarine U-977, its crew, and the report of the Navy Ministry on its investigation of the case. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 28, 1945.)

293. August 22, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,288, calling on the Permanent Committee of the National Postwar Council to establish as soon as possible a minimum program of action for the postwar period to assure the most adequate production and distribution of raw materials, fuel, electric power, machines, and implements, and the development of means of transportation, this program to include an industrial decentralization plan; amplifying the membership of the Permanent Committee, and making other pertinent provisions. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 28, 1945.)

294. August 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,195, removing certain restrictions on telegraph communications established by Presidential Decree No. 137,500 of December 2, 1942 (see Argentina 41, BULLETIN, May 1943 and above); repealing Presidential Decree No. 75 of June 10, 1943 (see Argentina 81, BULLETIN, November 1943 and February 1944), which suspended the use of codes and ciphers in foreign radiotelephone and radiotelegraph communications; providing that official communications of governments with which Argentina is not at war may be sent in secret language without limitations, and that private telegraphic, cable, and radio communications and radio conversations may be exchanged in secret language within certain limitations. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 5, 1945.)

295. August 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,332, extending, in view of difficulties of communications, the time allowed to aliens who have entered the country without fulfilling all legal

requirements to report the fact and their present residence to the local police as called for in Presidential Decree No. 536 of January 15, 1945 (see Argentina 207a, BULLETIN, August 1945.) (*Boletín Oficial*, August 28, 1945.)

296. August 25, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,342, rescinding the authorization granted to the Axis-owned firm Compañía Internacional de Teléfonos, S. A. to operate as a corporation. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 6, 1945.)

#### BOLIVIA

49. June 30, 1945. Supreme Decree defining the cases of exemption from the 20 percent tax on foreign bills of exchange granted to individuals. (*Minería Boliviana*, July 1945.)

#### BRAZIL

193. June 22, 1945. Order No. 384, Coordinator of Economic Mobilization, repealing Order No. 322 of December 19, 1944 (see Brazil 154, BULLETIN, May 1945) and making new regulations for the transportation of cereals produced in the States of Paraná and Santa Catarina. (*Diário Oficial*, June 23, 1945.)

194. July 10, 1945. Decree-Law No. 7723, suspending the effects of Decree-Laws No. 3911 of December 9, 1941, and No. 4166 of March 11, 1942 (see Brazil 1 and 19, BULLETIN, April and July 1942), with regard to Italians resident in Brazil; and making other provisions. (*Diário Oficial*, July 12, 1945.)

195. July 14, 1945. Order No. 389, Coordinator of Economic Mobilization, authorizing the Office of the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization to exercise full control throughout the country over the burlap industry, including price fixing, distribution, raw materials, production quotas, imports and exports of fibers, etc., and repealing earlier legislation on the subject. (*Diário Oficial*, July 16, 1945.)

196. July 20, 1945. Decree-Law No. 7762, amending Decree-Law No. 7466 of April 16, 1945 (see Brazil 186a, BULLETIN, October 1945) regarding the freezing of real property rents. (*Diário Oficial*, July 23, 1945.)

#### CUBA

816. September 3, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 2370, declaring September 3 and 4, 1945, to be official days of celebration because of the unconditional surrender of Japan. (*Gaceta Oficial*, Edición Extraordinaria, September 3, 1945.)

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

183. September 1, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 2942, authorizing the Mixed Commission for UNRRA Procurement in the Dominican Republic to export for a limited time the exportable surplus of corn, to an amount of 7,500 tons. (*Gaceta Oficial*, September 5, 1945.)

## ECUADOR

102a. March 8, 1945. Law establishing rent control and prescribing measures for administration of the control. (*Registro Oficial*, May 21, 1945.)

102b. March 27, 1945. Resolution No. 40, Minister of Economy, levying (in accordance with a clause of the quinine purchase agreement signed between the United States and Ecuador September 6, 1944) a 5 percent export tax on cinchona and its derivatives, to be paid to the Ecuadorean Development Corporation (see Bilateral and Multilateral Measures 164a, BULLETIN, April 1945). (*Registro Oficial*, August 20, 1945.)

117. July 27, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 1223, fixing retail prices for kerosene. (*Registro Oficial*, August 4, 1945.)

118. July 20, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 1189, amending Decree No. 692 of May 4, 1945, with special reference to the price of rice deposited at mills (see Ecuador 109, BULLETIN, November 1945). (*Registro Oficial*, August 4, 1945.)

119. August 16, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 1325, repealing Decree No. 1870 of November 27, 1942 (see Ecuador 47, BULLETIN, July 1943) which placed censorship on international telecommunications. (*Registro Oficial*, August 20, 1945.)

120. September 4, 1945. Presidential Decree declaring September 5, 1945, a national holiday in celebration of the United Nations victory. (*El Comercio*, Quito, September 5, 1945.)

## EL SALVADOR

115. August 27, 1945. Executive Decree lifting restrictions established by a decree of May 11, 1943 (see El Salvador 65, BULLETIN, September 1943), on the importation of Metoquina, a quinine product. (*Diario Oficial*, September 1, 1945.)

## HAITI

113. August 9, 1945. Legislative Decree No. 533, approving the Charter of the United Nations (see Bilateral and Multilateral Measures 212,

BULLETIN, August 1945). *Le Moniteur*, September 10, 1945.)

114. August 14, 1945. Executive Order No. 575, declaring August 16, 1945, to be a holiday in celebration of the final victory in the war. (*Le Moniteur*, September 20, 1945.)

115. August 17, 1945. Presidential Declaration approving, ratifying, and confirming the Charter of the United Nations (see 113 above). (*Le Moniteur*, September 10, 1945.)

116. August 23, 1945. Communiqué, Interior Department, lifting censorship on letters, telegrams, and radiocommunications, effective August 25, 1945. (*Le Moniteur*, August 23, 1945.)

## PARAGUAY

97. July 13, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 8533, regulating the functioning of the Rent Registry and the application of the rent control system established by Decree-Laws No. 3524 and No. 8025 of April 29, 1944 and April 6, 1945, respectively (see Paraguay 55 and 81a, BULLETIN, September 1944 and October 1945). (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 13, 1945.)

98. August 9, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 9863, canceling the juridical personality granted to specified German educational and sports societies and organizing an administrative and supervisory council to take possession of them. (*Gaceta Oficial*, August 9, 1945.)

99. August 16, 1945. Decree-Law No. 9908, declaring August 17, 1945, to be a holiday throughout the Republic in celebration of the end of the war. (*Gaceta Oficial*, August 16, 1945.)

100. August 16, 1945. Decree-Law No. 9926, continuing in effect, with certain amendments, for the duration of the abnormal economic situation caused by the war, the provisions of Law No. 282 of November 17, 1939, which prescribed measures for preventing speculation through various price, import, export, and similar official controls. (*Gaceta Oficial*, August 22, 1945.)

101. August 27, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 9980, broadening the provisions of Decree No. 9863 of August 9, 1945 (see 98 above) to cover all German and Japanese educational societies and schools in the Republic and ordering their transfer to the Ministry of Education. (*Gaceta Oficial*, August 27, 1945.)

## PERU

154. August 24, 1945. Law No. 10,222, prohibiting the raising of house rents until the

promulgation of a permanent rent law, and suspending the right of eviction except under certain specified circumstances. (*El Peruano*, August 27, 1945.)

#### URUGUAY

275a. July 7, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 794/943, prohibiting the exportation, with specified exceptions, of oil cakes. (*Diario Oficial*, August 29, 1945.)

283. August 27, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 3516, authorizing the Office of Industries to take charge of the attachment of all natural rubber stocks held through seizures of contraband goods or in private hands, in order to use the rubber for the manufacture of tires for public transportation services. (*Diario Oficial*, September 1, 1945.)

284. August 31, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 2785/943, prohibiting the exportation of rice. (*Diario Oficial*, September 10, 1945.)

285. August 31, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 1265/943, fixing maximum prices for specified types of coal. (*Diario Oficial*, September 10, 1945.)

#### BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL MEASURES

211a. June 25, 1945 and July 20, 1945. Agreement extending to December 31, 1946, the co-operative food supply agreement signed between the Government of Haiti and the Institute of Inter-American Affairs, representing the United States Government, on August 28, 1944 (see Bilateral and Multilateral Measures 164, BULLETIN, November 1944). (The new agreement was signed at Port-au-Prince on June 25, 1945 and at Washington on July 20, 1945). *Le Moniteur*, Haiti, September 17, 1945.)

## Pan American News

### *Message of the President of Haiti*

ON April 16, 1945, the President of Haiti appeared before the legislature to render an account of governmental activity and national progress during the fiscal year October 1, 1943–September 30, 1944. It was a message of facts and figures, covering a war year that at best was a difficult one for all nations. However, the message, the highlights of which are summarized herewith, indicated that the Republic of Haiti came through the year in good condition and was able to achieve some real progress in many fields important to the nation's economy and welfare.

**PUBLIC FINANCE, TRADE, AND NATIONAL ECONOMY.**—The President was able to report that financially the Government weathered the uncertain and abnormal

conditions resulting from the war in sound fashion. Government revenues for the year totaled 42,370,365 gourdes (the exchange rate for the Haitian gourde is fixed at 5 to the dollar), approximately 10 million more than in 1942–43. This increase in receipts, coupled with a surplus from the preceding year, permitted the Government, despite unusual expenditures, to end the fiscal year with an unencumbered treasury balance of 4,778,000 gourdes and to decrease the foreign debt from 70,419,000 gourdes on September 30, 1943, to 60,460,000 on September 30, 1944.

The condition of the Bank of the Republic was considerably improved during the year. The reserve reached 1,052,362 gourdes and the surplus 596,833, while undistributed profits as of November 30,

1944, totaled 571,000 gourdes. Government deposits, other deposit accounts, and savings accounts totaled 37,163,940 gourdes, an increase of more than 5 million gourdes over 1943. On November 30, 1944, the free deposit account of the Bank of the Republic in the National City Bank of New York exceeded 5 million dollars, which permitted the Bank at the end of December 1944 to invest \$500,000 in gold bullion. This purchase brought the Bank's gold reserve up to \$2,000,000. At the same time the Bank invested another \$2,000,000 in short-term United States Treasury notes, maturing in one year but meantime constituting negotiable paper.

The condition of Haitian business and commercial houses was also favorable. In fact, an examination of the commercial portfolio of the Bank of the Republic indicated that commerce in general was established on so sound a basis that the need for credit was reduced and businessmen were able to conduct their operations without much borrowing.

Haiti's foreign trade in 1943-44 reached a value unsurpassed during the previous fifteen years. Imports for the 12-month period ended September 30, 1944, were valued at 80,155,000 gourdes, compared to 49,202,000 in 1942-43; exports for the same period were valued at 80,542,000 gourdes, against 53,073,000 for the preceding year. Increased exports of raw sugar, fig bananas, and cotton were the main factors in the increased export value.

Various agreements were in effect during the year for the purchase of Haitian food products. Haitian sugar production, for example, was fixed at 64,000 short tons for the year 1944, of which the Commodity Credit Corporation (a United States Government agency) contracted to buy 47,000 tons, while the other 17,000 tons were reserved for local consumption and sale in the neighboring Bahamas and

Curaçao. Another United States agency, the Defense Supplies Corporation, contracted to purchase 4.5 million gallons of molasses; 2 million gallons of this amount were already in reserve in Haiti and the other 2.5 million gallons represented 1944 production. Because of the great need for industrial alcohol in the prosecution of the war, the United States restricted imports of spirituous liquors, but nevertheless Haiti's quota of rum exports to the United States in 1944 was fixed at 125,000 gallons. The Commodity Credit Corporation also entered into an agreement extending to May 7, 1946, for the purchase of all the derris produced in Haiti.

To prevent speculation in foodstuffs and consequent high prices for consumers, the exportation of many staple commodities—rice, corn, peas, millet, peanuts, potatoes, yams, plantains, and livestock—was regulated by executive decrees during the year. After local consumption requirements were met, export quotas were fixed and interested United Nations designated agents to handle Allied purchases of these Haitian food products. Price ceilings for all articles of prime necessity were also fixed during the year, in order to give tradesmen a reasonable profit and at the same time protect consumers from the evils of unrestricted profiteering.

Because of the war Haiti's interchange of goods was practically confined to neighboring countries and the United States. The President made particular mention, however, of the marked development of local small industries, and reported that Haitian handicraft articles had found favorable acceptance in markets in the United States, Canada, and many countries in Central and South America.

AGRICULTURE.—Haiti's agricultural problem, stated the President, was mainly one of education, organization, and technique for increased production—increased



in terms not only of larger areas under cultivation but also of improved yields. In this connection the President referred to the five-year plan for agricultural and other developments (see BULLETIN, February 1945), the success of which will eventually lead to more resources for a more vigorous attack on the educational aspects of the rural problem.

Interesting figures were presented on the increased cultivation of various crops. Plantings made under the direct incentive of the Department of Agriculture, with seeds and plants distributed by the Agricultural Extension Service, were approximately as follows:

4,575 acres of rice (185,200 pounds of seed).  
 5,550 acres of corn (112,300 pounds of seed).  
 2,800 acres of cotton (17,000 pounds of seed).  
 6,115 acres of castor beans (4,995 pounds of seed).  
 660 acres of coconut trees (26,678 trees).  
 865 acres of peanuts (35,110 pounds of seed).  
 380 acres of peas (30,754 pounds of seed).  
 800 acres of cashew nuts (4,905 pounds of seed).  
 200 acres of small millet (800 pounds of seed).  
 1,098,402 coffee trees and 665,893 shade trees, of which 24,129 were permanent, plus pruning, clearing, and fertilizing of old coffee plantations covering 4,940 acres.

The Horticultural and Botanical Sections of the National Agricultural School have for a long time been making serious efforts to develop new and remunerative crops in Haiti. First among these new items is chili peppers, the cultivation of which was begun with the distribution of several hundred thousand plants grown in government nurseries. Successful experiments were carried on with mung beans (the highly nutritious variety grown in China for bean sprouts) and with certain varieties of potatoes. Pyrethrum cultivation, introduced in 1940-41, proved to be a profitable crop; a thousand cinchona trees were planted; numerous nurseries produced derris plants for some 75 acres of ground; and approxi-

mately 40,000 seeds of the African oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) were supplied to the Agricultural Extension Service by the Horticultural Section. This species of palm produces an edible oil that may also be used in soap manufacture.

In May 1944 the Cryptostegia rubber program was abandoned. On April 28, 1944, in view of the imminent abandonment, an agreement was signed between the Haitian Government and the Institute of Inter-American Affairs for the initiation of a cooperative food production program to be carried out principally in the areas that had been planted with Cryptostegia; i. e., the regions about L'Anse d'Hainault, Dame-Marie, Cayes, Limbé, Cap Haïtien, and Artibonite. One of the principal points of the program, which got under way in October 1944, was the distribution to Haitian farmers of seeds, slips, plants, insecticides, tools, etc., and the installation of silos and storage places for their products. To start the cooperative project, the Haitian Government furnished \$50,000 and the Institute of Inter-American Affairs contributed \$125,000 and the services of forestry, irrigation, construction, and other experts. At least 27,180 acres were planted with rice, peas, corn, yuca, bananas, etc.; nurseries were established which undertook to produce 217,000 citrus trees, 55,000 mango trees, 30,000 avocado trees, 25,000 cashew trees, 30,000 other trees, and 4,000,000 vegetable plants. The program also included low-cost irrigation projects in the areas concerned, and repair work was undertaken on the Avezac irrigation system near Camp-Perrin. The irrigation part of the project was aimed toward installation of a permanent system, improvement of the principal irrigation canal, and aiding the farmers themselves to construct lateral irrigation ditches in such manner that approximately 4,940 acres of land would be benefited.

RURAL EDUCATION.—Haiti, said the President, is basically an agricultural country, where about 85 percent of the population lives in rural communities. While government finances did not permit the desired increase in the number of rural schools, no effort was spared during 1943-44 to build up a group of specialists and teachers that will provide sufficient personnel to organize and supervise rural education as soon as resources permit a more rapid increase in the number of schools. For the benefit of rural teachers, special summer courses were offered at the normal schools at Damien and Martissant and teachers' institutes were held in various regions for the exchange of ideas and for instruction. With a view to perfecting the teaching personnel in the normal schools themselves, four of the staff were sent to the United States during the year under review to take special courses and one student was also sent to the United States to study methods of food preservation and pork preparation.

The rural schools of Haiti did not limit their activities to teaching alone but, in fulfillment of the Government's earnest desire, they served as real social, economic, and cultural centers. That conception of their function materialized in instruction in farm practices, manual training, the formation of 4-C Clubs for young people (*Cerveau, Corps, Coeur, Communauté*, the Haitian equivalent of the 4-H Clubs in the United States), and the participation of parents and other adults in various community activities centered about the schools. School gardens gave practical training in farm methods; manual training especially stressed basket-making, spinning, weaving, and other home industries; the 4-C Clubs engaged in a great variety of activities of school, farm, and civic importance; and more than 30,000 parents and adults took part in the

various community and cooperative enterprises organized through the schools.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—The training of teachers abroad was emphasized in the general as well as in the rural educational program. A number of primary, secondary, normal school, and university teachers were sent to the United States for advanced training and in addition, 70 students went to study in the United States, Canada, England, and Mexico. At home summer or other special courses were given in the capital and other cities and visiting United States and French professors gave courses and lectures for the benefit of Haitian teachers.

Although Haiti's plan for 1943-44 was mainly directed toward the reorganization and improvement of existing schools, some new construction was accomplished, including a secondary school for girls, two primary schools for boys, and three for girls. A decree-law of September 25, 1944, provided that each year 20 percent of surplus local revenues should be allocated to school construction in all communes of the Republic. For 1944-45 such funds amounted to 153,125 gourdes.

The President also mentioned progress in the teaching of Creole (the Haitian patois), started during the year under review.

The President reported upon the close and helpful cooperation of the United States Government with the Haitian Government, particularly demonstrated by the cooperative educational agreement signed between the two countries in April 1944. The agreement embraced scholarships for Haitian specialists and teachers, the exchange of teaching materials, and the assistance of experts in the organization and administration of schools. The agreement provided that each United States expert on duty in Haiti would work with a Haitian, who would thus be

prepared to replace the visiting specialist at the end of three years. To put this program into operation, the Haitian Government contributed \$50,000 and the Inter-American Educational Foundation a total of \$172,000.

Plans for construction of a university center were made during the year, for which funds were to be forthcoming under the terms of a decree-law of September 25, 1944, whereby 10 percent of surplus annual local revenues were allocated to the project.

HEALTH AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.—During 1943-44 the General Office of the National Public Health Service attempted to consolidate the activities of new services with existing ones which had been benefited by substantial improvements under the nation's general health program.

The formation of a corps of public health experts progressed notably. Through the Institute of Inter-American Affairs five Haitian doctors were able to take advanced training in public health work at Harvard University and the University of Michigan. The United States Bureau of the Census and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau made possible an eight-month study course for the assistant chief of Haiti's Section of Bio-Statistics, and six sanitary engineers were sent to the University of Puerto Rico for training.

To promote better health habits among the people, the Public Health General Office used new means to approach the people: the publication and distribution of slogans, bulletins, and leaflets dealing with health; daily radio broadcasts; meetings in the poorer urban sections, in public buildings, and in rural clinics; postmark slogans on domestic mail; distribution of health posters; and similar publicity mediums.

Considerable success was attained in disease control. Sanitation improvements were completed in the capital and other towns and were undertaken in still other places; malaria control was intensified in six cities; and the campaign against yaws was continued in four towns and new yaws clinics established in two other towns. The number of treatments for yaws given by the Public Health Service during the year was 281,850.

The decree-law of June 15, 1942, which requires medical school graduates to serve for two years in the rural districts of the country before they can obtain their final license, began paying dividends in 1944, the end of the first two-year period since the law became effective. A great number of the young doctors who completed their rural internship and who therefore received their licenses elected to remain in practice at their rural posts. As a token of appreciation, the President continued payment of the government stipend to such doctors.—D. M. T.

### *Message of the President of Mexico*

On September 1, 1945, General Manuel Avila Camacho, President of Mexico, appeared before the Congress to render a report covering his fifth year in office. In crisp sentences, he presented a factual account of the state of the nation and his Administration's activities during the year ended the previous day. The outstanding economic and social sections of the message are summarized herewith.

THE TREASURY AND PUBLIC CREDIT.—Because of the war the Government's financial policy had of necessity to be formulated on abnormal bases, even though in some cases this was bound to have unfavorable effects. It was deemed best on the whole, however, not to sacrifice the possibility of Mexico's future development

to immediate urgency. As a result the country enters upon the postwar period with a strong economic structure and 376 million dollars of gold and exchange in the Bank of Mexico, an increase of 77 million dollars over 1944 figures. At the time of the President's message, the nation's circulating medium totaled 3,748 million pesos, of which 1,458 million were paper money, 567 million coin, and the remainder checks. This total surpasses the previous year's figure at the corresponding date by 761 million pesos. With the end of the war, however, Mexico's imports are likely to increase and the exchange supplied by Mexicans who worked in the United States will soon disappear; this prospect led the President to predict that the circulating medium will soon begin to diminish.

Deposits of banking institutions in the Bank of Mexico amounted to 1,148 million pesos. This money as a basis for credit operations was frozen in great part, however, and therefore did not influence price increases. The Government kept the volume of credit granted by private banks in the Federal District at May 1944 levels and increased to 50 percent the proportion of cash required to be held against obligations by banks operating outside the Federal District.

Two other factors also entered the general monetary picture. One was the tendency observed since the end of 1941 toward a decrease in the spending of bank deposits, a fact that demonstrated the people's continued confidence in the nation's money. Instead of converting their liquid resources into merchandise at high prices, they preferred to leave the money in banks and await a more propitious time for expenditures. The other factor was the amount of silver coin and gold bullion. Of the 567 million pesos in coin mentioned above, 519 million are in silver coin, the

greater part of which has been accumulated by the working classes. The sale of gold bullion by the Bank of Mexico continued to increase. In 1943-44, 18,447 kilograms (kilogram equals 2.2 pounds) were sold and in the first seven months of 1944-45, 10,583 kilograms. All in all, in view of the increased population, expanding industrialization, and the general development of the nation's economy, the monetary circulation could not be considered as too exaggerated, remarked the President.

Since the passage of the law on processing industries (1941), various enterprises have been established having a capital stock of more than 200 million pesos and giving employment to more than 20,000 persons. And it is reasonable to assume, said the President, that these industries required the investment of an equal sum represented by bonds and other forms of financing.

The Government continued its program of public works, holding to the view that any immediate alleviation of the monetary and price problems derived from a suspension of the program could not offset the resultant loss to the republic's future development. The program was largely carried on by ordinary federal revenues, the only bond issues authorized having been 60 million pesos for public works and 101 million pesos for highways. These have not yet been sold and it is likely that only 20 million of the public works bonds and 23 million of the highway bonds will be offered for sale in Mexico. Borrowing to finance public works did not have to be resorted to because federal income notably exceeded budget estimates during the past year. In the first half of 1945, income totaled 593 million pesos, 64 million above the estimate.

To facilitate the functioning of the National Distributing and Regulating Agency, the Government increased its capital by 20

million pesos and gave it authority to engage in credit operations. While it is the aim of the Government to increase domestic production, thereby liberating the country from the need of importing necessary foodstuffs, that is a long-term task, intimately linked to the irrigation and highway programs that will open up new areas of production. In the meantime, the Government has done what it could immediately do, through the National Distributing and Regulating Agency, to facilitate imports of necessary articles.

The budget for the 1945-46 fiscal year amounts to approximately 1,139.5 million pesos, distributed, also approximately, as follows: Administrative expenses, 457 million pesos; highway construction and maintenance, 150.5 million; irrigation works, 150 million; river dredging and similar works, 11.5 million; railway construction, 30 million; port works, 13.5 million; school construction, 11.5 million; public buildings, 6.5 million; military barracks, airports, and posts, 10 million; telegraph lines, 1 million; water and drainage works, 6.5 million; postal service, 1 million; army matériel, 15 million; social security, 12 million; increases in the capital of the Bank of Ejidal Credit and the Bank of Agricultural Credit, 20 million and 4 million, respectively; electric power plant at Torreón, 10 million; the Federal Power Commission, 10 million; and debt service, 240 million.

**NATIONAL ECONOMY.**—To the full extent of its ability the Government acted to check the rising cost of living, said the President. This action particularly took the form of measures to increase industrial production and to secure an improved distribution of raw materials. For example, rubber, rayon, cement, bricks, and other scarce materials were equitably distributed among industrialists; and exportable articles such as henequen and its manu-

factures, other fibers, coffee, chicle, vegetable waxes, etc., subject to agreement with the United States, were controlled so that contracts could be met and at the same time domestic requirements assured.

Manufactured products occupied an important place in Mexican exports, indicative of an improved economic level in the country. The exportation of manufactures and semi-manufactures accounted for 28 percent of total export values; in 1939 they were less than 2 percent.

In spite of the many difficulties encountered in the procurement of equipment and raw materials and in transportation, the President stated that industrialization has definitely entered upon a period of broad and solid activity. This is demonstrated by the 93 new industrial plants established during the past year, by the increasing imports of agricultural, mining, and industrial machinery, and by the marked channeling of bank credit toward industry. Such credit amounted to 67 million pesos in 1940 and to 143 million in 1944, an increase of 113 percent in four years.

The mining outlook was not very satisfactory, the President reported, production of both industrial and precious metals having dropped in 1944 below 1943 levels. The termination of contracts for United States purchases of Mexican minerals when the progress of the war decreased the need had a profoundly adverse effect on Mexican mining. Decreased foreign purchases, however, were not the only factor in the situation. Irregularities in transportation, which caused accumulation of ore at the mines; cessation of mining in small enterprises because of their inability to operate at a profit; and difficulties in replacing or repairing equipment also played their part. The Government has the matter under study and hopes to find ways to stimulate production, to improve mining techniques, and to amend certain

legal provisions that have been considered in the past an obstacle to mining progress.

Realizing that no plan of industrial development can be accomplished without electric power, the Federal Power Commission intensified its work to the limits of its capacity. Installation of the second unit of the Ixtapantongo power plant, the first unit of which began to operate in September 1944, is under way; when completed, the plant's present 40,000 hp. capacity will be doubled. Construction has also started on the Valle de Bravo dam and preliminary work is being done at the Santa Bárbara plant, below Ixtapantongo, which will have a capacity of 66,000 hp. The 100,000 hp. plant at Zumpumito, Michoacán, and the first-2,500 hp. unit at the Colotlipa, Guerrero, plant were opened, while other power stations in Chiapas, Jalisco, and Veracruz are well on the road to completion.

**PETROLEUM.**—The oil industry (a government enterprise in Mexico) achieved considerable progress, ending the year with an increased yield and a broadened field of operations. Forty-nine new wells were sunk, of which 31 proved productive, yielding 12,120 barrels a day. The nation's petroleum reserves are estimated at 870 million barrels.

Total petroleum production was 38,574,000 barrels, an increase of 2,274,000 barrels. Mexican refineries treated 35,360,000 barrels. The capacity of the Azcapotzalco refinery was increased and work on new plants and the Poza Rica-Azcapotzalco pipe line is progressing. Oil storage plants were completed in Campeche, Mérida, Baja California, and Brownsville, Texas.

The 17 locomotives acquired by Petróleos Mexicanos greatly helped the distribution of oil within the country. Domestic consumption amounted to 1,233.5 million gallons, valued at 380,848,000 pesos, an

increase of 132.5 million gallons and 78,523,000 pesos over the preceding year. Petroleum sales abroad totaled 51,260,000 pesos, 9,860,000 pesos over 1944.

Petroleum taxes yielded 98,113,000 pesos, and the industry spent 1,400,000 pesos for the support of schools. No statement on profit or loss was made by the President.

**AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN AFFAIRS.**—During the year under review, the nation was beset by abnormal weather that had disastrous effects on crops in many regions. Hurricanes in Colima and Jalisco, floods in Chihuahua, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, and Oaxaca, and generally irregular rainfall destroyed crops in the field and in storage and washed away topsoil in widespread areas. In spite of these abnormalities, however, the yield of cotton, tomatoes, alfalfa, copra, chick-peas, vanilla, tobacco, and grapes exceeded crop estimates; the wheat harvest was less than one percent below estimates; but the corn crop was 259,145 tons below the expected yield.

Eleven agricultural and livestock experimental stations operated during the year. To promote the mechanization of agriculture, the Federal Government contributed 276,000 pesos, state governments 84,000, and the campesinos themselves 235,000 for the purchase of machinery. Exports of agricultural and livestock products amounted to 123 million pesos.

The condition of agricultural credit was satisfactory throughout the year. The National Bank of Agricultural Credit made loans totaling 19 million pesos. Credit extended to ejidos amounted to 20 million pesos, of which 19 million were applied to payments for farm machinery purchased in the United States. In addition to tractors owned by ejidal cooperative groups, there are now 1,326 tractors available for use in the ejidal communities. The total planted area financed by col-



lective ejidal credit during the year was 2,957,780 acres, the production of which was valued at 303,602,300 pesos.

The National Irrigation Commission has a budget for this year of 145 million pesos, the largest since its establishment in 1926. Rapid progress is being made on a number of large dams and flood control projects, and at the same time 15 million pesos have been allocated to small irrigation works. As a result of completed work, 193,895 acres were recently opened to cultivation and more than 42,000 acres were improved.

The President reported that the number of ejidos in the country totaled 17,897, with a total population of 2,135,000 campesinos. During 1944-45, 1,927,360 acres were granted to 379 new ejidos, benefiting 14,499 campesinos, and five new rural population centers were established on 22,607 acres of land, with a population of 785 campesinos. Water use rights were granted to 310 ejidos, for the benefit of 144,135 acres.

In the continued development of the agrarian reform the Government has been careful to maintain respect for small properties. During the year under consideration 3,770 certificates of indefeasibility were issued to small farmers protecting the property rights to 643,750 acres.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS.**—The Government's efforts in this field were directed toward achieving a communications network that will permit efficient coordination of transportation throughout the country. Federal expenditures for highway construction and maintenance totaled 137.5 million pesos, with the result that 236 miles were surveyed, 270 miles graded, 149 temporarily surfaced, 132 permanently surfaced, 118 paved, and culverts and other drainage works were installed on 335 miles.

Highways from the capital to the States of Chiapas and Durango will soon be com-

pleted and several other main or connecting roads to outlying regions of the country are well under way.

Railroad construction also advanced, particularly on the Southeast Railway, the Sonora-Baja California line, and the railroad leading from Chihuahua to the Pacific Coast. The program of rehabilitation of the National Railways was carried on as fast as the acquisition of new rails permitted. Investments in construction, maintenance, repair, and equipment totaled approximately 100 million pesos.

Rail traffic, still operating under the strain of the wartime emergency, showed some improvement. Fifteen Diesel engines were acquired for yard service and two of them were tried out for passenger service on the Ciudad Juárez-Torreón line. The scarcity of freight cars will be greatly alleviated as soon as 3,200 cars on order in the United States are received.

Civil aviation also made considerable progress. Several new airports were built and existing ones were repaired or enlarged. Air lines now in operation cover 111,846 miles, of which 22,369 represent new concessions granted during the past year. The training school for civilian pilots is turning out an average of 30 graduates at the end of each three months' course.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION.**—A sizable portion of the President's message was devoted to public education. The plans announced in his previous year's message, he reported, are all being put into effect.

Outstanding among educational events was the overwhelming response of the nation to the illiteracy campaign under the law of August 21, 1944. By August 1, 1945, 32,414 centers of group instruction had been established throughout the country, attended by an average of 888,936 illiterates—526,417 men and 362,519 women. Furthermore, seven million of the official

instruction primers and writing books had been distributed for individual instruction. In certain regions Indian groups are being taught Spanish by means of bilingual textbooks. Fifty normal school teachers who speak both Spanish and one of the Indian languages are being given special courses to prepare them in turn to instruct rural teachers in the use of the campaign material. The Government expects to have within a short time 1,550 special bilingual instructors, 620 for Nahuatl, 310 for Tarascan, 310 for Maya, and 310 for Otomí.

The Department of Education's budget for the year was the hitherto unprecedented amount of 171 million pesos, a figure which topped the national defense budget by half a million pesos. This money enabled the federal school system to serve 1,973,455 pupils during the school year, 85,549 more than in the preceding year; teachers' salaries were raised; the school year in rural normal schools was lengthened; and the Federal Teacher Training Institute was commenced and is now giving free correspondence instruction to 4,500 teachers who have only their primary certificates. By October 1, 1945, 9,000 teachers, approximately half of the total who have not yet obtained their teaching certificates, were expected to be enrolled. This program of teacher training will strengthen in particular the rural school system, one of the main bases of the national educational structure. The School Construction Committee made definite plans for 720 new schools in the Federal District and in 22 of the States and Territories. Of these, 208, with room for 29,591 pupils, were completed and 250 more, suitable for 142,421 pupils, are under construction.

Construction has been started on the Superior Normal School in Mexico City and its completion in 1946 is expected. Vocational education in secondary schools was advanced by new machinery for 153

workshops where instruction is offered in carpentry, shoe manufacture and repair, bookbinding, plumbing, and other trades.

In January 1945 the Government's contribution to the National University was raised from 3.8 million pesos to 5.2 million for the year, and in June 1945 an additional sum of 181,890 pesos was allocated for increasing salaries.

The National Polytechnic Institute is broadening its field of activity. Five new courses of instruction were recently added: four-year courses in communications and electricity, chemical engineering, nursing and obstetrics, and three-year courses in statistics and criminology.

In July 1945 the National School for Librarians was established. The small 25-centavo "pocket books" of the Popular Encyclopedic Library continued to appear each week during the year, a total of 1,700,000 of them having gone into circulation.

**HEALTH AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.**—The general mortality rate decreased during the year, conspicuously so with regard to infant mortality. Campaigns against smallpox, malaria, venereal disease, and tuberculosis were actively carried on. Anti-tuberculosis work was particularly noteworthy. The country's first hospital for tubercular children was opened and much progress was made in separating children from sources of infection in their homes. The chest examination service was reorganized; new tuberculosis dispensaries were opened in four states; and three new tuberculosis hospitals in the Federal District and the States of Veracruz and Jalisco are almost ready for occupancy.

The general hospital construction program was carried on as funds and materials permitted. Three new hospitals—one for chronic diseases in Tepexpan, a general regional hospital in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, and a mental hospital in León,

Guanajuato—were opened during the year. Others are under construction in 17 towns scattered throughout the republic, and in Sonora, Sinaloa, and Baja California ejidal cooperative groups are working with the Government to finance local hospitals.

In the Federal District the new hospital for nutritional diseases is almost completed and so also is Family Dining Room No. 2, which will be a great boon to the low-paid workers in the district where it is located. The aim of the family dining rooms is educational as well as nutritional, for there the family not only eats well while it is on the dining room service list, but the housewife is also taught to plan an adequate diet for her family at home. Classes in dress making and other household skills are also given at the dining rooms.

The Department of Health and Public Assistance had a budget for the year of 75 million pesos, 6.5 million above that for the preceding year.

**LABOR AND SOCIAL WELFARE.**—Most of the labor disputes that arose during the year resulted from demands for higher wages because of the increased cost of living. Because of efforts toward conciliation, only 31 of the 561 strike threats actually materialized. A new collective bargaining law was approved and in accordance with its provisions a number of labor contracts have been revised, particularly in the textile industry.

The Social Security Institute, which began operations in January 1944, considerably expanded and improved its activities. Its service registered an average monthly increase of 20 percent during

the year. Medical service was supplied in 4,390,000 cases; cash benefits totaled 1,745,000 pesos; and benefits in kind amounted to 14,142,000 pesos. Total social security receipts were 43,534,000 pesos; expenditures for medical assistance, pharmaceutical service, benefits, etc., amounted to 20,668,000 pesos; and investments totaled 22,866,000 pesos.

Thirteen missions functioned during the year in outlying Indian districts, for the purpose of assisting Indian groups to improve their farm and livestock practices, organize small hand industries, develop cooperatives, install small-scale irrigation and drainage works, and improve their homes.

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS.**—Mexico's foreign relations continued on an even keel throughout the year. In the war against the Axis, the nation's wholehearted economic participation was supplemented by the active participation of a Mexican Expeditionary Force, Air Squadron 201, which went out to fight in the Pacific. In addition to this squadron of flyers, approximately 15,500 Mexicans were serving in the United States Army and still others in the British and French Armies. Casualties among Mexicans fighting in the war totaled 1,492 as of June 30, 1945.

Mexico continued its cooperation in the activities of various established United Nations organizations such as UNRRA and FAO, and the country's contribution to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco is demonstrated by the fact that the Conference adopted, wholly or in part, 20 of the 28 amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals suggested by the Mexican delegation.

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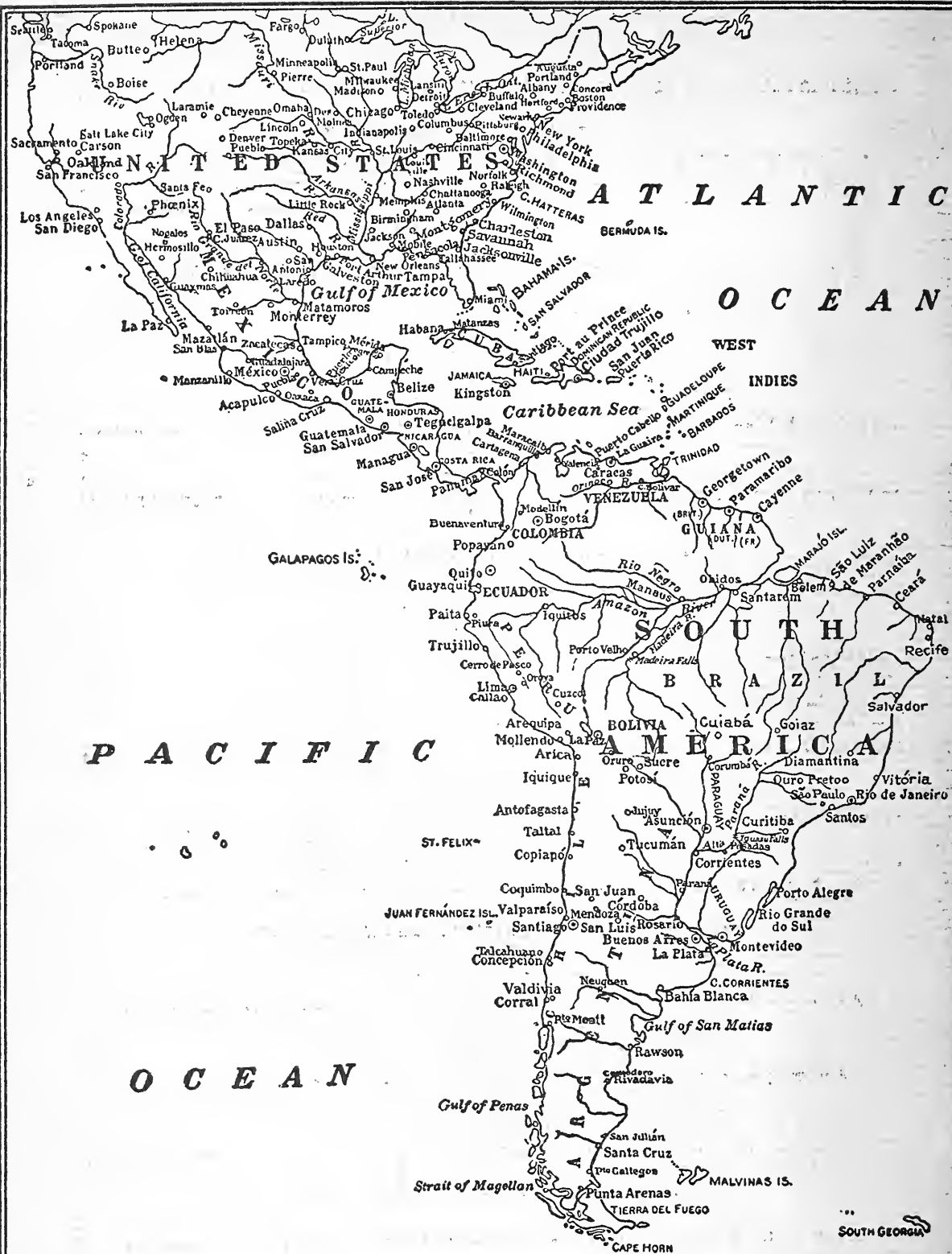
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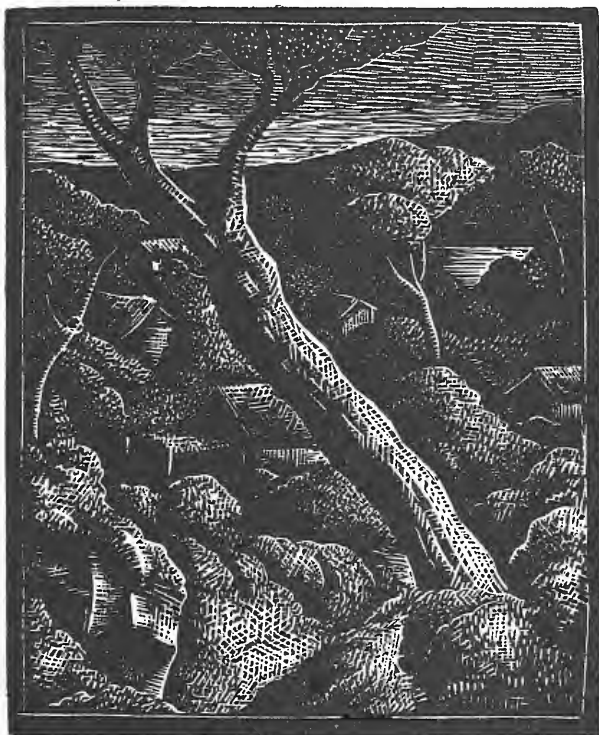


BULLETIN OF THE

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 55 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; and the Eighth, at Lima in 1938. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions from all the countries, in amounts proportional

to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 135,000 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: GALLERY OF HEROES, PAN AMERICAN UNION





#### UNIVERSITY OF HABANA

In Latin American technological education, translations will provide for the increasing number of engineering students samples of the vast technical literature of the United States.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 2



FEBRUARY 1946

## Potentials in Inter-American Technical Book Publishing

JAMES S. THOMPSON

*President McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.*

FROM October 12 to November 15, 1945, the Pan American Union at Washington displayed the books of some three hundred publishers in the Western Hemisphere. Fifty-seven hundred different titles, chiefly in Spanish and Portuguese, gave impressive evidence of the importance of books to other peoples as well as to ourselves. In the collection was a group of United States books on Latin American subjects. Decidedly, however, it was not a representation of United States publishing. But it was a display so significant that I wish to share with you the thoughts which arose in my mind as I examined these books.

The occasion was a ceremonial one. A small distinguished gathering had been invited to participate in the presentation of a beautiful set of Peruvian books to the Library of Congress. Five publishers, of

whom I was one, visited Latin America under State Department auspices in the summer of 1943. At Lima, Peru, we received a commission to serve as envoys in transferring certain printed historical documents of Peru to the national library of the United States. The presentation was delayed so that this gift might be placed against an appropriate background, a cross-section of Latin American book publishing.

As I examined this important exhibition of books, I again was filled with admiration for the technical skill of Latin American printers and publishers. Every possible printing and binding problem had been faced squarely; almost always the result was an artistic victory for the designers and workmen. The results in offset color printing were simply splendid, and the typography was of highest quality.



The imprints on these books reminded me again of the cordial reception we American publishers had received. Memories crowded my mind of the great cordiality and hospitality of the various national publishers' associations, Cámaras del Libro, and of the numerous pleasant interchanges of correspondence I have enjoyed. There were the happy moments, too, when publishers like Dr. Daniel Cosío Villegas of Mexico, José González Porto of Mexico, and Max Alfaro Southwell of Peru visited the United States and shared their enthusiasm for continued inter-American solidarity.

But of most significance that night, possibly, were my thoughts concerning the translation and publication abroad of United States books. Many of these Latin American publishers had carried through extensive programs of translations of the classics of world literature. Numerous recent United States books, especially the best-selling novels and discussions of current affairs, had been translated; in some instances the copyright notice indicated almost simultaneous publication in Spanish or Portuguese and in English.

But there were few scientific or technological books in translation, and those that were on display came from local sources or chiefly Europe. In medicine, science, agriculture, technology, business methods, and other fields of learning, the United States has become a leader in the world. In the preparation of practical books descriptive of man's vast acquired knowledge and skills, probably no other country has done as well. Annually a thousand books of technology and science are published in the United States. Many of these are indispensable tools to human progress.

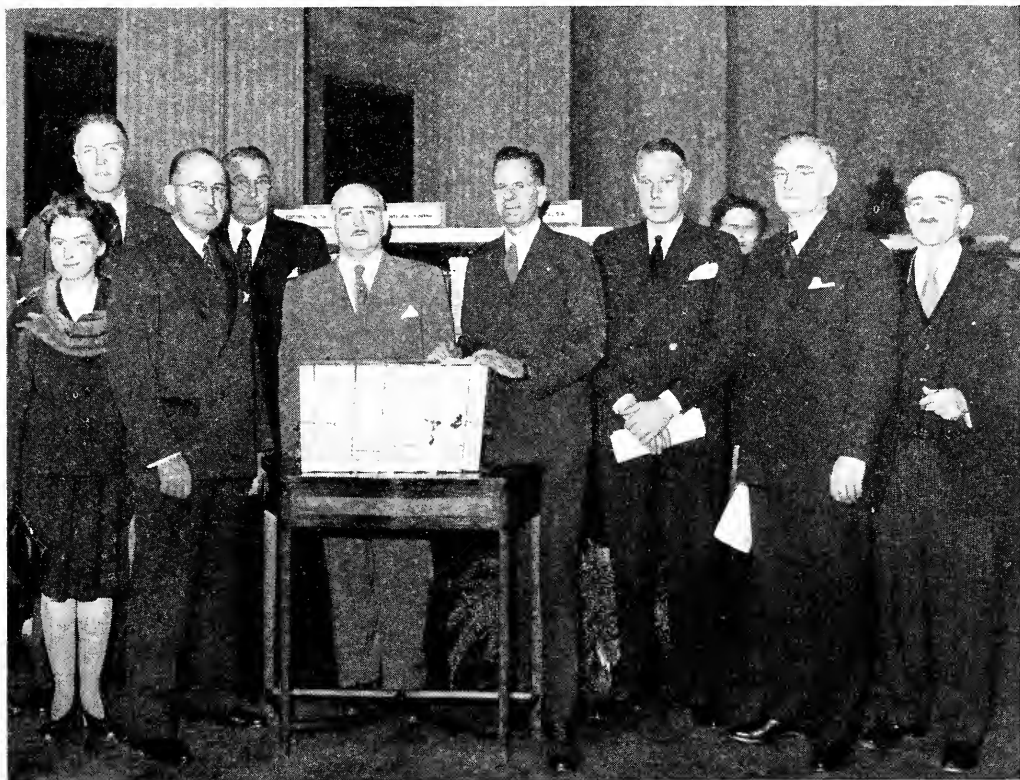
If the United States has so large and so important a list of scientific and technological books, I wondered why so few had been translated into other languages

At this moment when industrial progress is so notable south of the Rio Grande, I wondered why the twenty other American republics should be without so many of these tools of industry, engineering, and technical education.

Some of the reasons which came to my mind are well known. First, many universities have followed the traditional European pattern in which lectures replace textbooks and laboratories. These lectures have always tended to be theoretical, and consequently there has been a greater demand for philosophical discussions than for practical handbooks or laboratory manuals. Second, the American system of weights and measures must be converted to the metric system, a tedious task which every student cannot be asked to engage in and which the publisher can accomplish in a translation only with the assistance of competent scholars. The cost of translation, therefore, is increased, a third reason for the appearance of few American scientific books in translation. This matter of cost also must be reckoned in the matter of translation itself; Latin American publishers must pay permission fees and translation costs, sometimes before the book reaches the printer.

There are several other difficulties which could deter the faint-hearted. In many subjects the terminology is not yet standard; new fields like aviation and radio produce tantalizing vocabulary problems. The tendency is to strive for uniformity of terminology throughout the hemisphere; especially in aviation, where safety factors are important, progress toward uniformity has been achieved.

The use of the English language abroad is expanding. Nearly thirty thousand students attend classes in cultural institutes in Latin America. The sales of books in English, especially technical and scientific books, have skyrocketed in Latin America.



#### PERUVIAN BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The five United States publishers who visited South America in 1943 acted as envoys to transmit to the Library of Congress a gift of the Publishers and Printers Association of Lima. The ceremony took place at the Pan American Union on November 1, 1945. In the photograph appear, from left to right: Miss Janeiro V. Brooks, Librarian, Columbus Memorial Library, Pan American Union; Burr L. Chase, President, Silver, Burdett and Company; Malcom Johnson, Vice President, D. Van Nostrand Company; Herschel Brickell, Acting Chief, Division of International Exchange of Persons, Department of State; Dr. Humberto Fernández Dávila, Chargé d'Affaires of the Peruvian Embassy; George P. Brett, Jr., President, The Macmillan Company; Robert F. de Graff, President, Pocket Books, Inc.; James S. Thompson, President, McGraw-Hill Book Company; and Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union.

Is it true that the English language will be the common denominator in language and that translations of difficult books will not be necessary? That question answers itself neatly if the word "difficult" is dwelt upon. It is easy to read a narrative written in a foreign language, but an intricate discussion or a detailed analysis will hold the attention only of him who must gain the information locked in the foreign language. There are thousands of

books which will never be translated, but there is an indispensable group of basic texts which ought to be translated as rapidly as they appear in English.

To one publisher whose career has been devoted to the publishing of scientific and technological literature in English, the conclusion that he must put his books in foreign languages has been most stimulating. On the one hand I am deterred by all the technical publisher's instinctive



conservatism. On the other hand I cannot view with disinterest three important thoughts. First, great pride in the work of authors whose books I have a hand in publishing leads me to wish them maximum circulation regardless of language barriers. Second, the need for basic books is too great to refuse to make them available to students eagerly pursuing courses in science and engineering and desiring to learn modern technical methods and processes of manufacture. Third, all publishers agree that the interchange of knowledge, skills, and persons, essential to the mutual understanding of peoples, is the true and essential foundation for durable peace. Books record man's knowledge and something of his skills; books bring health and understanding and friendship. And thus I look for new books from abroad to translate into English as eagerly as I hope that good American books will find ever-widening audiences in other lands.

The decision to embark upon a program of translations came after extensive correspondence with Latin American publishers and after numerous consultations with the Division of Cultural Cooperation of the Department of State. Some elements in the decision came early. It was agreed that large-scale operations were not feasible, because every translated book had to meet the needs of varied particular local conditions. It was determined that translation and printing should be done by Latin American publishers, because of the desire to share publication and distribution with recognized firms serving the potential market. Although the translations have been made by the cooperating publisher in Latin America, the versions have been reviewed in order to maintain the integrity of the text. In some instances the author has read proof to give the various versions complete accuracy.

At this moment many volumes are in process of translation into Spanish or Portuguese. The major fields of interest, after fiction and other trade books, are agriculture, science, engineering, industrial management, business, and related subjects. A few details from my experience are interesting. In its first six months Hayes and Immer's *Methods of Plant Breeding* sold more copies in Spanish than in English in the same period. That fact startled me more than any other in my whole investigation of foreign publishing. Here was a famous book which had been distributed widely in a country noted for its botanical and agricultural progress. Yet in the Spanish language this book met a need which I frankly had not thought of. That book has become the basic document in research activities throughout Spanish America. Sell's monumental *English-Spanish Comprehensive Technical Dictionary*, containing more than half a million technical terms with definitions, went into a second printing of 2,000 copies less than a year after publication. A twelve-page pamphlet of tables converting weights and measures from American to metric units had a circulation of 10,000 copies within a year.

Croft's *Practical Electricity*, an established classic in the United States, provided a unique example of joint inter-American publishing experience: An edition in Spanish (*Tratado de Electricidad Práctica*) circulated originally in Buenos Aires was given equal distribution in Mexico and Central America by the publisher of the English edition, who imported sheets for binding in New York. Several universities now use the Spanish edition in class-work.

The effect of these translated books and reference works cannot be estimated. Already research in plant breeding has showed the effect of the book by Hayes

and Immer. American research methods and American educational procedures now are being tested by scholars. In connection with other programs, such as that of the Rockefeller Foundation in improving Latin American library service and that of the cooperative agricultural experiment stations of the Department of Agriculture under the State Department's Interdepartmental Committee on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation, the translation program of United States publishers will play a significant part in inter-American relations.

What of the effects in industry? The Spanish edition of the authoritative *Production Line Technique* by Muther, which Guillermo Kraft is issuing in Buenos Aires, can influence basic manufacturing processes toward the adoption of mass production methods.

In engineering, for instance, the names of Timoshenko and Terman, already well known for their several volumes in advanced mechanics and in radio, respectively, can influence many fold the minds of Latin Americans as the Portuguese and Spanish translations of their works appear.

In technological education, regardless of the increased number of exchange students, also the constant increase in use of the English language in Latin America, translation developments will provide to

the enlarging population of engineering students samples of the vast technical literature appearing annually in the United States.

What I hope will be undertaken is a qualitative, not a quantitative, effort. For example, take simply these four important branches of science and technology: agriculture, transportation, communications, and sanitation. Consider the influence on standards of living if technical publishers in each American republic would place in the hands of the right persons among their clientele translations of the best books in these fields.

There can be no question of the challenge facing the technical publisher to participate in the world-wide movements in technical education, scientific research, and industrialization. Scientists from many nations knew no geographical or language barriers in precipitating the age of atomic energy. Scientific and technical publishers obviously can parallel the viewpoint of the scientists in this respect.

If we assume that there will be reasonable arrangements for copyright protection and high quality translation, cooperation among publishers, book dealers, and librarians in the Americas can undoubtedly influence important reciprocal relationships among industrialists, educators, engineers, and investigators.

# Rafael Arévalo Martínez

## *Delegate of Guatemala to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

RAFAEL Arévalo Martínez, Guatemalan delegate to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, took his seat in Guatemala's high-backed carved mahogany chair at the Governing Board's massive council table on November 21, 1945. This was the Board's first meeting under the organization prescribed by the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace at Mexico City in March of that year. Until that November meeting, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union had been composed of the diplomats who represented the other American republics in Washington, with the Secretary of State representing the United States. Resolution IX of the Chapultepec Conference provided for the appointment of delegates *ad hoc* to the Governing Board, holding the rank of ambassador. Since various countries later expressed the desire to consider the matter further, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union consulted with the governments of the countries members of the Union. It was decided that each might choose whether it would be represented on the Board by its diplomatic representative in Washington or by a special delegate pending definitive solution of the matter by the Ninth International Conference of American States or by any other earlier inter - American Conference. Guatemala was the first republic to name a delegate *ad hoc* under the new plan.

Guatemala's delegate to the Pan American Union is a poet and prose writer who



has long held high place in the esteem of discriminating critics of Spanish American literature. For nearly twenty years he has been Director of the National Library of Guatemala, and he has been honored by institutions and learned societies in both North and South America. When the International Institute of Ibero-American Literature planned its admirable Library of American Classics to present the best in poetry, fiction, drama, and essays from all the Ibero-American republics, Rafael Arévalo Martínez was

one of one hundred past and present writers whose works were selected for publication.

Dr. Arévalo Martínez was born in Guatemala July 25, 1884, son of Rafael Arévalo Arroyo and Mercedes Martínez Pineda. He was educated at the Colegio de Infantes. In 1911 he married Doña Eva Andrade Díaz, and they have four sons and three daughters.

It was in 1926 that Dr. Arévalo Martínez was made Director of the National Library of Guatemala and entered upon the duties which he resigned only last August. Through all those years he continued to write for publication, producing poetry, fiction, and satire. He has been president of El Ateneo de Guatemala; president of the Technical Bibliographical Commission of Guatemala; honorary vice-president of the Inter-American Bibliographical and

Library Association; secretary of the International Central American Bureau; member of the Academia Española de la Lengua, of P. E. N. (international association of poets, playwright., essayists, editors, and novelists), and of Amigos del Museo de Guatemala.

The Guatemalan delegate's published works include: *Maya*, 1911; *Una Vida*, 1914; *Los Atormentados*, 1914; *Manuel Aldano*, 1922; *El Señor Monitot*, 1922; *La Oficina de Paz de Orolandia*, 1925; *El Hombre que Parecía un Caballo*, 1927; *Las Rosas de Engaddi*, 1927; *Los Noches en el Palacio de la Nunciatura*, 1927; *Llama*, 1934; *La Signatura de la Esfinge*, 1933; *El Mundo de los Maharachías*, 1938; *Viaje a Ipanda*, 1939; *Los Duques de Endor*, 1940; *Influencia de España en la Formación de la Nacionalidad Centroamericana*, 1943; *Nietzsche el Conquistador*, 1943; *Ecce Pericles*, 1945.



# Mateo Marques Castro

## *Delegate of Uruguay to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

THE Pan American Union recently welcomed Uruguay's delegate *ad hoc* to the Governing Board, Señor Mateo Marques Castro, who was appointed by his Government in accordance with Resolution IX, adopted by the American Republics at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace early in 1945.

Señor Marques Castro brings to his new post the experience of long years in government, diplomacy, and inter-American affairs. Born in Montevideo on November 15, 1894, he was educated at the University of Montevideo and for some time thereafter devoted himself to business, industry, and stock-raising. In 1931 he was called to his first public office as Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic. In the following years he filled many important posts in the service of his country: Director General and later Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Foreign Trade Director; Vice Chairman of the National Tourist Commission; Chairman of the Foreign Trade Advisory Board; and Chairman of the Advisory Commission on Treaties with Argentina. In 1934 he was elected representative in the National Congress and served as senator from 1939 to 1942. Entering the field of diplomacy, he was appointed Minister to Cuba; Special Minister before the Government of Canada, where through his efforts the first trade treaty between Canada and Uruguay was signed in Ottawa in August 1936; Special Ambassador to Cuba in 1937 and again in 1944, on the occasion of a presi-



dential inauguration in that country; and Special Ambassador to the Dominican Republic in connection with the celebration in honor of that nation's centenary of independence in 1944. At the present time, in addition to his duties as delegate to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, he represents his country as Ambassador in Mexico.

Uruguay has honored Señor Marques Castro a number of times by appointing him delegate to inter-American conferences. These include the Seventh International Conference of American

States held at Montevideo in 1933; the Pan American Commercial Conference, Buenos Aires, 1935; the Inter-American Conference on Radiocommunications, Habana, 1937; the Inter-American Demographic Conference, Mexico City, 1943; and the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, Mexico City, 1945.

Señor Marques Castro's interest in economic and cultural affairs is evidenced by his affiliation with such organizations as the Rural Federation of Uruguay, the Cuban-Uruguayan and the Uruguayan-Bolivian Cultural Institutes, the Association of American Artists and Writers, the San Martín Institute of Uruguay, and others. His published papers cover a wide range of economic topics—land problems

and colonization, banking, travel, and trade treaties—and he has also contributed widely to the press on economic and financial subjects.

Many foreign governments have conferred decorations on Señor Marques Castro, thus recognizing him as an internationalist of high standing. During past years he has received decorations from the Governments of Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, and the Netherlands.

Señor Marques Castro attended a meeting of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union for the first time on November 21, 1945, when he was warmly welcomed by his colleagues and officially began his new duties.



# Alice de Toledo Ribas Tibiriçá

IGNEZ B. C. d'ARAUJO

*Tibiriçá* is one of the names that in the history of every people carry the connotation of deeds which immortalize not only the performer of such deeds but also the places where they occurred. With the passing of time they become the treasure of the particular regions of which they are indicative. They make true the belief that the "link between a name and a person or thing denominated by it is not a mere arbitrary and ideal association, but a real substantial bond which unites the two."

Anyone who hears the name of Tibiriçá makes the acquaintance of the state of São Paulo. The first bearer of the name was Tebeyriçá, a powerful chief of the Guayanazes, an Indian tribe that lived in Southern Brazil in the place where the prosperous state of São Paulo was founded. History tells us that when the first settler of Brazil came from Portugal in 1532, he found an embryonic colony already established there by João Ramalho, a Portuguese, either a shipwreck survivor or an adventurer who, favored by the affection of the princess, daughter of the Indian leader, was one of the masters of the region.

The generosity of Tebeyriçá was exemplified not only by granting his daughter to the white man but also by helping the new settlers: defending them from the other natives, guiding them through the land, and disclosing to them the undeveloped wealth of the country. This protection was the good fortune of the Portuguese, who otherwise would have had to face troubles with other Indian tribes. It is said that when the latter saw the strange ships approaching the coast they at once prepared a warm welcome of



Courtesy of Ignez B. C. d'Araujo

ALICE DE TOLEDO RIBAS TIBIRIÇÁ

bows and arrows for the intruders; but when they learned of the friendly attitude of their feared neighbor towards the white-faced kin of the princess they converted the war preparations into festivities. João Ramalho became the patriarch of the finest families of São Paulo. Yet Tebeyriçá remained as the tutelary genius of one of the most interesting phases of Brazilian civilization.

Gliding over the centuries we come to another eminent Tibiriçá of São Paulo—this time, a great president of the state—whose tireless activity improved educational conditions and the status of teachers; drew up regulations for municipal autonomy; and promoted immigration and



colonization, the building of railroads, and the development of agriculture and cattle raising.

This outstanding executive was the father of João Tibiriçá, the husband of Alice, another bearer of the traditional name, who has brought nation-wide fame to it in recent years. "Anywhere that the name of Alice Tibiriçá is heard, one may be sure that it is connected with some work of charity or general welfare. This name deserves the respect and the gratitude of all Brazilians," wrote Dr. Belisário Penna, the former director of Public Health in Rio de Janeiro. Alice is a Paulista by adoption. She was born in the state of Minas Gerais in the city of Ouro Preto (Black Gold), called today the Monument-City—a relic of old Brazil. Her father was General Toledo Ribas, who as a boy of fourteen accompanied his father, Brigadier Ribas, to the war of the Triple Alliance. According to the customs of the time, she was educated at home under the guidance of Dona Maria Augusta, her mother, and by private tutors. She married at the age of twenty-six and moved to São Paulo.

There she lived near the renowned Conservatory of Drama and Music, and though already having two children to take care of, she decided to pursue the study of music, her favorite art. At the same time, she was interested in social welfare work and started a campaign for the prevention of leprosy. She was so active in this work that she could easily see the real contribution her efforts were making to those unfortunates affected by the terrible disease.

Her versatile nature expressed itself in manifold interests; she founded a school for boys and girls to help the education of her own children. But, as if inspired by the great novelist who said "music and reading are life's poetry, work its most enchanting prose," she closed the school

and gave up her piano to devote herself entirely to the campaign against leprosy.

This was in 1926, when even the mention of this disease was more or less taboo in Brazil. It had been brought to the country from Africa by slave-traders a long, long time ago. Yet few hospitals existed to receive the patients. Alice Tibiriçá had the vision to understand that this communicable malady was not simply a matter of health. It was a social problem too. The campaign must reach the whole country. São Paulo was just a cell of the immense body. Without delay she founded the Sociedade de Assistência aos Lázaros e Defesa contra a Lepra (Society for the Assistance of Lepers and the Prevention of Leprosy). Pamphlets and all kinds of propaganda were mailed and distributed everywhere in the country.

It was not long before similar societies were formed in both the leading cities and rural communities of Brazil. Mrs. Tibiriçá used to make personal visits to many places, spreading her ideas and securing the cooperation of doctors as well as the sympathy of the people, as she did during the Medical Conference when she established a branch of the society in Rio de Janeiro. With funds obtained through drives, new wings were added to hospitals and buildings were erected in the so-called leper colonies, and dispensaries, workshops, recreation facilities, and preventoriums were built in different states.

Within a few years Mrs. Tibiriçá united all the societies into a federation and initiated the campaign of solidarity, which aimed for the self-rule of the local societies. As before, the campaign was more than fruitful. It was a matter of great interest, and the public gave generously the means by which other achievements were made possible. However, Mrs. Tibiriçá was not quite satisfied. She wanted actual cooperation from the Government,

indispensable for the consolidation of her work. For this purpose, in her capacity as president of the Federation, she called all private and official organizations working with leprosy or interested in that problem to a conference for the unification of the campaign.

From one end of the country to the other, leading authorities in public health, directors of hospitals, government officials, eminent specialists, and delegates from as many as one hundred private organizations gathered in Rio de Janeiro. The states of Amazonas, Pará, Piauí, Maranhão, Rio Grande do Norte, Pernambuco, Alagoas, Bahia, São Paulo, Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul, Goiás, and Minas Gerais were represented. The Society for the Assistance of Lepers and the Prevention of Leprosy was no more a local enterprise. It was a nationwide project. Alice's dream had come true, and now she transferred the headquarters of the Society to the city of Rio de Janeiro, resigning the presidency of the Federation and suggesting the election of a new president. She then returned to her office in São Paulo.

This decision did not mean that she was losing interest in the Society that she so devotedly founded. On the contrary; during her twelve years of work she had met the most varied problems; she had come into contact with situations and difficulties completely new to her. This experience made her realize the need of having trained personnel, proper equipment, and other facilities to carry on a broader program. From her headquarters in São Paulo, our heroine founded in Rio de Janeiro the Carlos Chagas Institute of which she became the president. Her attention was no longer concentrated on the leprosy campaign alone. She had in mind, now, health in general: a crusade against other diseases, such as tuber-

culosis, and the training of medical social workers.

As a sequel to the foundation of the Carlos Chagas Institute, the Institute of Social Service was established under the auspices of the University of Brazil. Later the Institute of Preventive Services came into being, sponsoring heart and lung examinations of children and adults in various dispensaries, factories, and other institutions in order that diseases of these organs might be caught and cured in their initial stages.

Influenced, in spite of herself, by the phrase *of the people* in public work or maybe moved by the democratic understanding that government is service, Alice Tibiriçá has also been an active feminist. Advocating the rights of women in the conferences of the Federation for the Advancement of Women, she proposed in 1931 the establishment of Mother's Day in Brazil on the second Sunday of May, as in the United States; and in 1936 she suggested the creation of rural agricultural schools so that the daughters of farmers could have suitable education.

Her interest in specialized education for girls was not new. In 1927 she had founded what she calls one of her "private undertakings," the Santa Augusta Institute of Arts and Science, named for her mother. There, besides the basic courses, piano, and shorthand or secretarial work, the girls were taught domestic economy. A lover of nature, she pursued her pioneering work of opening new fields of education for girls by persuading the state government to establish courses in poultry-raising and bee-keeping in one of the beautiful parks of São Paulo. It was not very long before classes were held in the Park of Animal Industry, and scholarships granted by the municipal government to girls living in the interior.

An outstanding American woman, a

feminist leader, in speaking about Jane Addams of Chicago said that women have accomplished much for the public in the line of service because they know what is for the public good. The accomplishments of Alice Tibiriçá are true exemplifications of this wise statement. As a great social worker she voluntarily took the responsibility of meeting serious problems of public interest. Once learning of them she realized that something must be done about them; somebody must act. Through her devotion and intelligent understanding she made the whole country aware of these problems, winning the cooperation of thousands of people. Her campaign against leprosy attracted the attention of the government; this was its primary significance.

The Society for the Assistance of Lepers and the Prevention of Leprosy flourishes now in the hands of other devoted presidents. Each state of Brazil has its own hospitals, clinics, colonies with preventoriums, schools, churches, recreation centers, workshops, and educational facilities. According to the plan for the prevention of the disease, the patients are to be kept in their own regions.

Behind all these achievements as well as more recent projects, Alice Tibiriçá stands as the tutelary genius, just as throughout the centuries the first of the family name has been the glory of São Paulo. However, she is sure to have a successor. Her daughter, Maria Augusta de Toledo Tibiriçá, since early youth has followed in her footsteps, and has prepared herself for the task ahead. She graduated in medicine from the University of Brazil, and in social service in the courses organized by her mother under the sponsorship of the University; she also has diplomas in the courses on labor hygiene given at the Departamento Administrativo do Serviço Público (Civil Service Commission), in the course on industrial hygiene taken at the War Industries Board, and in the course on hospital organization and management of the Rio de Janeiro Department of Public Health.

"Remember your beautiful mission, to devote yourself to others; be happy yourself by making others happy" seems, indeed, to be the inspiring motto of the women of the Tibiriçá family.

The name is not a mere label, but a distinct part of their personalities.

*Pages from*

## “A Naturalist in Cuba”

THOMAS BARBOUR

### Cuba's Weather

THE official temperatures taken under protected conditions give no idea of the real heat which the traveler may encounter in Cuba. January, February, and March are charming. The sky is clear, the sun hot, the shade cool, and the nights are delightful. And in the normal course every few weeks a norther freshens the air, sometimes bringing the temperature down to 55° or 60° Fahrenheit, which seems fearfully frigid. Very rarely even more cold is encountered and the poor people, ill-clothed as they are suffer woefully, for windows are wide and glass is rare outside of Havana. From April to December when the heat is very great, there seems to be solace in the remark so often repeated, that it is never as hot in Havana as it is in New York in summer. This is only partly true. It seldom goes over 92° at noon, indoors, but it approaches this

*Through the courtesy of the late author and publisher the BULLETIN is privileged to print a few pages from Thomas Barbour's A Naturalist in Cuba, published late in 1945 by Little, Brown and Company. It was a labor of love, a tribute to commemorate Dr. Barbour's friendship and admiration for the naturalists of Cuba, as he said in his dedication, and one that expresses his affection for all Cuba. "The taste and feel of the place" are in every line, whether the subject is the Harvard Garden at Soledad, birds, caves and cave-dwelling creatures, Cuban food, or simply dawn and nightfall. Since 1908 Dr. Barbour had been going to Cuba for long or short stays, so many that he had lost count. Reading this book will add to the enjoyment of any other visitor to Cuba who has a seeing eye and a friendly heart.*

*The BULLETIN records with regret that Dr. Barbour died in Boston January 8, 1946. He was world famous as a naturalist.*

figure very closely every day, and at night there is no very marked change. In the open country and in the street in the sun really fantastically high temperatures may be found. This is mentioned simply in the interest of accuracy, not because the heat is unhealthful, or especially unpleasant to anyone who loves the tropics. Quite the reverse.

The Spaniards built their cities with too narrow streets, which, while easily shaded with awnings above, admit no drafts or air. Their houses, on the contrary, were built more sensibly than those built in the colonies of the English, French, or Dutch. The hotel room I used for years in Havana had a stud of thirty feet and such are not rare—the thick walls, the large high windows and doors, make perfect tropical houses, and the wonder is that only now have they begun to be copied. Modern dwellings in south Florida have gained a great deal by copying Cuban architecture, and Cuba in recent years has been widely pillaged for old tiles for roofing.

The island is extraordinarily healthful. Yellow fever is gone; hookworm has but a small hold; filariasis is much rarer than elsewhere in the West Indies; only malaria continues to be a problem. In portions of central Cuba and the lowlands of Oriente there are still many foci of severe malarial infection.



## VARADERO BEACH, NEAR MATANZAS

January, February, and March are charming in Cuba, says Dr. Barbour.

Cuba is, generally speaking, a hot country with a very uniform temperature. The rainfall is distributed as in so many tropical regions, there being a rainy season and a dry. From May to November it is rainy and from December to April dry. The rainy season is normally marked by two peaks of rainfall—usually in June and October. The summer season is characterized by frequent thunderstorms. These are preceded by the formation of magnificent castles of towering cumulus clouds, accompanied by the dying out of the breezes until the heat becomes extremely oppressive; then comes what the Cubans call the *aire de agua*, a fresh, humid, and most agreeable breath of air. The thunder now increases to drum-fire intensity, the lightning flashes sometimes almost unceasingly. Finally the skies open and rain falls in a way that we seldom see it fall here in the North. Cloudbursts of a number of inches falling in a single hour are not unusual.

Two phenomena are so characteristic and dramatic that I cannot pass them by without a word. I recall the first of many northers which I have felt and seen in Havana. A norther is usually preceded by a south wind. Perhaps you know the old saying: *A Sur duro, Norte seguro*. The south wind gradually dies out and there is a breathless stillness which somehow always seems to me to convey, subconsciously, an aura of impending trouble. Suddenly the norther, really a northwester, starts to blow; the temperature drops and there may be a drizzle or a sharp shower of rain. If you are in Havana my advice is to hurry to the Malecón and watch the ocean grow angry. If the norther is a really bad one you'll soon have to take shelter. Many a time have I seen the waves rise to dash and break, the spray flying over the lighthouse on Morro Castle. I have often seen the streets of the waterfront inundated in a few hours after the onset of the storm and when the tempest has died away seen gangs

of workmen clearing away rifts of sand and coral heads tossed up by the waves into the streets. The weather now may clear and then a few days of fresh, cool weather ensue, most enjoyable wherever you may be. Sometimes, however, the succeeding days of cold may bring great suffering to people who live in houses where there is no glass in the windows and no blankets on the beds. The northers are the exciting features of winter weather and they form a contrast to the hurricanes of the summer months.

So far as I know no really good explanation for the origin of a hurricane has ever been determined. To say that they are tornadoes or twisters on a giant scale is descriptive but not explanatory. Cyclones usually build themselves in the ocean east of the Caribbean Sea, frequently blow across Cuba and pass out over Yucatán, or blow along Cuba and perhaps strike the Mexican coast, sometimes curling back to Florida. Many others, however, miss Cuba entirely, crossing the Bahama Islands to strike Florida, or curving northward to reach the coast of

Virginia and even New England. The latent powers within the atmosphere are impossible to describe. One day may be calm, peaceful, and the next the elements may rage with such force and engendering such terror that it is almost impossible to describe. The sight of the oncoming hurricane is awe-inspiring. The noise of the rising wind is fearful. The sheer heights of fury which it reaches at the peak of the storm are indescribable, and overwhelming. I don't mind anyone's saying that he has been afraid during a hurricane. I don't believe any living person has ever passed through one and not been afraid. The sights of buildings and villages blowing to pieces, of the tops of palm trees popping off and hurtling over the ground like tumbleweeds on the prairie, is a manifestation of the power of nature which is unequaled. I am sure the typhoons in the Old World may be just as bad as the hurricanes in the New, but my own experience has done nothing but make me hope and pray quite simply and humbly that I may never see one again.

## Sugar Cane

It has occurred to me how interesting it would be if in the new world setup of economy which will come after the war, the production of sugar were assigned to Cuba, and that she were relied on to take care of the world supply, other crops being grown elsewhere. Of course, the unfortunate fact is that there is nothing more important for Cuba to look forward to than crop diversification. . . .

Cuba produces more sugar than any other area on the globe. For economy, the whole system is predicated on the fact that the mill must run continually throughout the grinding season, which, generally speaking, is the duration of the dry

weather, four or five months. When the fields become muddy with the spring rains the bulls cannot pull the heavy, high-wheeled carts out to get the cane to the scales. These weighing points are situated at varying distances along the complicated lines of plantation railroad. Empty cars must be distributed to each scale and loaded cars picked up and hauled to the mill to supply cane to the crushers during all of the twenty-four hours of every day.

Reduced to the human equation, this means that the men who cut the cane rise early, long before daylight, drink a cup of black coffee, usually about two o'clock in



Courtesy of the Cuban Bureau of Public Works

### CUBAN CANEFIELDS

Cuba produces more sugar than any other area on the globe.

the morning, take their horses, and ride to the field. Cane cutting is not by any means the simple process that it would appear to be. The cutter grasps a stalk of cane in his left hand about five or six feet above the ground. Then with a slash or two of his machete he strips loose the dried leaves—*paja* they are called. Then he swings his machete and cuts off the stalk to the left and brings it back sharply to the right against the blade of his knife. The weight of the stalk and the swing against the sharp blade cut it in half. He lops off the green top which is tossed into a separate pile, away from where he throws the cane. These tops or *cogollo* are later bundled up and used for cattle and horse feed. The cut stems of cane, the *trozas*, are picked up by women and boys, helped by the cutters when the task which

they set out to accomplish that day is finished. They are gathered and piled into the cane cart, on top of chains laid across the bottom of the wagon.

After this work is finished, the bulls which have been feeding on the green cane tops are gathered together, yoked up, and the great load, weighing a number of thousand pounds, is hauled to the scales. Here the load is weighed and the amount cut is credited to the account of the individual cutters and the bull driver as well. The chains are gathered together so that the whole load is hoisted up in the air by a winch, usually activated by a mule walking round and round in a circle hitched to a hoisting apparatus. Drawn up in the air, it is swung over and dropped into a special type of railroad car.

In due time these cars are gathered into



trains by locomotives and hauled to the mill yard. Here they are shunted about, hauled hither and yon among a maze of switches by a pair of oxen until they finally are brought in a steady stream to the foot of the conveyor. The car next is made fast to a turning platform, the railing on one side of each car is loosened and the car tipped up sideways. The cane falls directly on an endless belt which carries it up to the several sets of rollers whence the juice goes to the boilers. Here it is concentrated until finally the heavy

thick mass is poured into the centrifuges, the molasses thrown off, and the sugar dropped into jute sacks of 240 pounds each. Formerly it was supposed that the centrifuges had to be managed by a Chinese, the idea being that the strictest possible attention was necessary. The maximum amount of molasses was to be extracted but not too much, for on this depended the color of the sugar and the color indicated the purity, and the purity indicated the duty it would or would not pay upon entry into the United States.



# Brazilian Names

ANNIE d'ARMOND MARCHANT

*Former Assistant Editor, Boletim da União Panamericana*

BRAZILIAN names are of course derived from Portuguese names, just as the usage in American names is derived from the English. The present discussion is concerned especially with Brazil.

The question of Brazilian names seems to be a constant source of bewilderment to all those in the United States who must deal with them, either for the purpose of listing them alphabetically or of tracking them down in the various haunts where they may be found. And yet, at first sight, it would seem simple, for the arrangement of Portuguese and Brazilian names is basically the same as that of English and American names—that is, first the given name, with whatever middle name may be attached to it, and last the surname, the father's, of course. If the name contains, or the person wishes to use, his mother's maiden name, that comes before the last name, as in English. For instance, *João dos Santos* marries *Eulália Rebelo*; she becomes *Eulália Rebelo dos Santos* and their son *Joaquim Rebelo dos Santos*, or *Joaquim R. dos Santos*.

It is well to note that, in this particular, Portuguese usage differs from Spanish usage, in which the mother's maiden name, when used, comes last, even when represented by an initial, as *Enrique de la Vega Concheso* or *Enrique de la Vega C.*, if the mother's maiden name happens to be Concheso.

So it seems on the face of it that Brazilian names should fit perfectly into any American method of listing personal names. Nevertheless, the clamor in regard to them is general, and people professionally en-

gaged in delving into such things will tell you emphatically, "Brazilian and Portuguese names give us more trouble than any others."

Three things are probably at the root of the trouble: the great importance given to the Christian name in Brazil; the liberties that Brazilians take with their surnames; and the lack of uniform and standard sources to serve as guides.

## *Importance of the Given Name*

In the past all Brazilian names were listed alphabetically by the forename. This was the universal practice, inherited from Portugal from the beginning, and it persists today in many official lists for examinations, competitions, and induction into the armed forces, and in many others. So ingrained is this habit in the mores of the nation that parents often have it in mind when naming their children, with a view to giving them a good start in the battle of life. Occasionally a foresighted parent even goes so far as to name his son *Aarão* in order to guarantee him first place on the various and sundry lists in which his name may appear. As a matter of fact, the very first name that strikes the eye in the old *Diccionario Bibliographico* Sacramento Blake, 1883, is *Aarão Leal de Carvalho Reis*.

To the Anglo-Saxon mind this manner of listing seems appalling, for unless the given name is known beforehand, one is at a complete loss when it comes to looking up someone in an alphabetical list. In Brazil, however, this is no great feat, owing to the preference given the first

name and the prevailing habit of calling people by it in all walks of life. The Father of Brazilian Independence, for instance, is universally known by his given names *José Bonifácio* and not by his surname *Andrada e Silva*. And the same goes for most of the Presidents, as for example: *Wenceslau Braz* (*Pereira Gomes*); *Marechal Deodoro* (*Deodoro da Fonseca*); *Marechal Floriano* (*Floriano Peixoto*), the given name being preceded in the last two cases by a military title. Sometimes the surname is meaningless without the given name. If "Presidente *Morais*" were suddenly mentioned in a group of Brazilians, the first reaction might be: What *Morais*? until suddenly someone would exclaim, "Oh, you mean *Prudente* (*Prudente de Moraes*). An American, talking to a group of Brazilians, brought up the subject of "the great Brazilian composer *Gomes*," and they looked at each other blankly, until suddenly one of them exclaimed, "He means *Carlos Gomes*!" and there was a roar of laughter. Very often even in private life a person becomes known better by his given name than by his surname, and is addressed even by strangers as *Sr. José Carlos*, or *Dr. Antonio Luiz*.

And so it goes for all people in all grades of society. Though in social parlance Brazilian women are addressed by their surnames—*Senhora Albuquerque*, *Senhorita Oliveira dos Santos*—usually all women, married or single, are called by their given names preceded by *Dona*—*Dona Leonor*, *Dona Adalgiza*; and certainly the use of the ladies' Christian names gives a certain warmth and cordiality to the salutation that is very gratifying. Women physicians are also quite often called by their given names—*Dra. Emilia*, *Dra. Carmen*, and so on. Incidentally, it should be borne in mind that while *dona* is so commonly used for women, *dom* is never used

for men in Brazil, except for royalty and high dignitaries of the Church, for instance the Emperors *Dom Pedro I* and *Dom Pedro II*, and the cardinal *Dom Sebastião Leme*, the Archbishop *Dom Jayme da Camara*, and others, as well as for the members of certain religious orders, among which are the Benedictines. This danger sign is inserted at this particular point owing to the prevailing Spanish habit of using *don* with men's names and the fact that occasionally it is liable to crop up with a Brazilian name in the United States.

But the given name does not depend merely on popular preference or usage for its prominence. Brazilian law confers upon it the stamp of immutability, declaring flatly: "The forename is immutable,"<sup>1</sup> though any mistakes in spelling may be corrected provided there is no change in pronunciation. No signature is legal in which this name does not appear. However, the surname can be officially changed. *Alfredo Cardoso de Viana* may elect to call himself *Alfredo da Silva Brandão*, but he must remain *Alfredo* to the end of his life. Fortunately, however, the law provides that civil register clerks shall refuse to register any name susceptible of exposing its bearer to ridicule, a veritable lifesaver against those parents, known in every land, who, to satisfy a whim, vindicate a prejudice, mark an event, or merely as a joke, delight in giving their children freak names.

The latest lists of inductees into the Brazilian armed forces provide very good cross-sections of the most commonly used men's given names. The inductees are listed in this fashion: *Ary, son of Zoroastro Gonçalves de Andrade*. *José* predominates definitely. It is quite natural there-

<sup>1</sup> Article 72 of Chapter IV of Decree No. 4857 of November 9, 1939, regarding registries established by the Civil Code of 1916. "*Diário Oficial*," Nov. 23, 1939.

fore, that the Brazilian equivalent of the American *John Q. Public* should be '*Ze Povo*, '*Ze* being short for *José*. After *José* comes *Antônio* and, roughly speaking, *João*, *Manuel*, *Joaquim*, *Jorge*, and so on.

Many foreign Christian names such as *Walter*, *Milton*, *Jefferson*, *Napoleão*, *Wilson*, *Washington*, *Lincoln*, and so on, have become domiciled in Brazil. Ancient history has furnished such high sounding names as *Eurípides*, *Epaminondas*, *Pitágoras*, *Diógenes*, *Alcíbiades*, *Arquimedes*, etc., in contrast to the soft euphonious names of Indian origin, *Guarabira*, *Tibiriçá*, *Ubirajara*, and many others.

The most usual feminine names are *Maria*, *Joana*, *Tereza*, *Ana*, *Emilia*, followed by many others that are common in most of the continent. However, Brazilian parents have a varied field out of which to choose beautiful names for their daughters. National motifs furnish the following, which are quite common: *America*, *Brasília*, *Brasilina*, *Brasiliana*. Again, the Indian tongues come forth with *Iracema*, *Juraci*, *Moema*, *Jaudira*, *Araci*, and so on. Movie actresses furnish a good quota. Brazilians also have a flair for making up names that sometimes are quite pleasing, as for instance *Nilsa*, derived from the father's and mother's names, *Nilton* and *Creusa*.

#### *Introduction of the inverted system of listing names*

In the course of time, particularly with the growth of library science and the increasing cultural intercourse between Brazil and other countries, the inverted system of listing names was introduced into Brazil. The first publications of this kind adopted the method of listing under the compound or actual surname, as *Aguilar Pires Ferreira* (*Domingos Malaquias*). This, of course, soon proved itself to be a perennial source of confusion to foreign librari-

ans, scholars, bibliographers, and others. The search for the correct listing of a particular name developed at times into a major problem. Even Brazilians were not always consistent in the matter and a name might appear listed differently in different publications. The confusion engendered by this system arises principally from the facility which family names seem to possess of amalgamating and arranging themselves, as if by common consent, into various and sundry combinations. Of course, if all such names were visibly hyphenated, like *Villa-Lobos*, *Cata-Preta*, *Castelo-Branco*, and so on, the problem would be solved. But such is not the case. Personal preference and usage rivet them together more firmly than any hyphen and together they go down through generations, particularly if the ancestor who first adopted the combination or around whom it grew, attained fame and distinction, or until such time as a new outgrowth is ready to branch from the family tree.

Take the name *Oliveira Lima* (*Manuel de*), for instance, which came, no doubt, from a combination of family names. Today, however, no one would connect either *Lima* alone or *Oliveira* alone with that distinguished Brazilian historian and diplomat. Other well known names of this kind are: *Gonçalves Dias* (*Antônio*), *Machado de Assis* (*Joaquim Maria*), *Coelho Neto* (*Henrique Maximiliano*). Very often, however, there is doubt as to just where the surname begins.

All this is a source of worry to the American cataloguer. Is this a combination? If so, how many names does it contain? Where does it begin? One stabilizing factor, as stated in the beginning, is the fact that the surname always comes at the end—as long, of course, as it continues to be the surname. Sometimes Brazilians are a bit arbitrary about their surnames, electing to use for the purpose this or that

family name "to avoid confusion," or for any other preference or personal reason. Just lately the irate secretary of a certain executive came in, saying: "I have spent days—literally *days*—looking for a letter from a correspondent, only to find that in his first letter he signed himself *Joaquim Brito*, and in his last, *Joaquim Brito de Moraes*."

In the inverted system of listing, the trouble is to know where the surname begins, if one is unfamiliar with the name. Take the name *Joaquim José de Campos da Costa de Medeiros e Albuquerque*. One does not divide it arbitrarily, like the harassed librarian who exclaimed: "I have got to the point where I just cut the name into two equal parts and index the last half," which would not work in this case as the surname is *Medeiros e Albuquerque* (*Joaquim José de Campos da Costa de*).

It might be presumed that the various particles, *de*, *do*, *da*, *dos*, *das*, and *e*, that often occur between various parts of the name, would prove valuable allies in determining the surname, but such is not the case, except in regard to *e*. The prepositions may or may not unite the component parts of the surname, as the case may be. It so happens, however, that the conjunction *e* is not very prevalent in Portuguese names, whereas the prepositional forms abound. Parenthetically it is interesting to note the prevailing American usage of affixing these particles to surnames in addressing or referring to Brazilians as *Mr. da Costa*, *Mrs. d'Oliveira*, *Miss de Vasconcelos*. This custom does not exist in Brazil, where they would be addressed simply as *Sr. Costa*, *Sra. Oliveira*, and *Srta. Vasconcelos*, even though their names are *Joaquim da Costa*, *Sônia d'Oliveira*, and *Edita de Vasconcelos*. It must be admitted, however, that Brazilians in the United States do not appear particularly averse to this form of address. To the contrary, they usually seem to like it, in a

self-conscious, amused sort of way, and end by adopting it themselves while in the country, probably in self defense. If, for instance, José da Costa becomes generally known as Da Costa he himself is forced to adopt it in order to identify himself. In Brazil, only names of Spanish, French and Italian origin have the preposition definitely attached as part of the surname; for instance: *de la Rosa*, *d'Arnoux*, *de Fuccio*, and so on.

Eventually, in order to avoid the pitfalls inherent in the form of compound inverted listing, it was generally conceded in Brazil that the safest course lay in adopting for the purpose the last name, whether it was the whole surname or merely a part. Thus in the new *Dicionário Enciclopédico Brasileiro*, 1943,<sup>2</sup> we have the familiar *José Bonifácio* listed as *Silva*, *José Bonifácio de Andrada e*. In this system, not even the conjunction *e* is respected as a binding link. Just as listing by the forename is awkward for Americans, so this listing by the last name was an innovation to Brazilians, who are in the process of becoming inured to it. A great promoter of public usage in this respect has been the unassuming telephone directory. Consulted daily by thousands of Brazilians all over the country, for years it has been training the rank and file to track down people by the last name instead of the first.

*Silva* is the *Smith* of Brazil. The 1945 Rio telephone directory shows *Silva* occupying twenty columns, against *Santos* with twelve columns, *Pereira*, *Sousa*, and *Ferreira* with eleven each, followed roughly by *Carvalho*, *Teixeira*, *Gomes*, *Pinto*, and so on.

This sweeping policy of choosing the very last part of a surname under which to index a name, even at the expense of a

<sup>2</sup> Organizado sob a direção do Prof. Alvaro Magalhães, Livraria do Globo, Porto Alegre.

major operation, often quite painful to the patient, would seem on the surface to be a magic solution to the problem. But the cataloguers, librarians, bibliographers, scholars, and research experts in general wail back: "Yes, indeed, if there were uniformity. But when you have to wade through several sources all arranged differently, it really becomes maddening." But after all, we counter, some of the old *Dicionários* that listed persons according to the forename *are* provided with indexes, as for instance Sacramento Blake. "True, but what with all three systems flourishing side by side, you must admit . . ." and so on. "Besides, when you have been used to a certain name in a certain combination, it is almost as hard to locate it by the last name as it is by the first or Christian name; for instance, who would think of looking under *Sousa* for *Washington Luis*?" H-m-mm . . . there was food for thought in that. But, we parry brightly, libraries do have cross references, only to be told that not everyone is a walking library.

About this time the inevitable question comes up—"How does Brazil manage the situation?" Well, Brazil admits that there is a problem. However, when you are born to the sound of these names, grow up and live happily in their midst, usually you can find your way about among them perfectly, whether by instinct, intuition, or some strange sixth sense. "Yes?" gloatingly. "Do you remember that time I asked you how to list a certain name and

you said you were not familiar enough with that name to tell me just where the surname began?"

Another complaint that usually comes up in connection with Brazilian names refers to the lack of some up-to-date comprehensive reliable biographical dictionary of all living Brazilians who have achieved celebrity in any field, something you can put your finger on immediately for any reasonable information regarding a person. "Why does not Brazil get out a yearly over-all comprehensive publication of this sort, like *Who's Who in America*, *Quien es Quien en la Argentina*, *Diccionario Biográfico de Chile*, *Diccionario Biográfico del Perú*, *Quien es Quien en el Paraguay*?" By this time one is completely humble and seeking strategic retreat, but—"Wait a minute, that is not all. What about a complete list of author pseudonyms?" "But there is a dictionary of pseudonyms".<sup>3</sup> "Yes, but not complete."

May these lamentations reach the ears and hearts and minds of the powers that be in this particular field!

And finally, it may now be told. This whole rambling discussion anent Brazilian names and the research entailed by it were undertaken purely as a measure of self-defense—or at least of dignified retreat—in the innumerable occasions when one is pinned down for information by various and sundry people consumed with a thirst for knowledge of such things.

<sup>3</sup> Antônio Simões dos Reis, "*Pseudônimos Brasileiros—1a. série*," *Želio Valverde, Rio de Janeiro, 1941*.

# Francisco Cabrera

(1781-1845)

LILLY DE JONGH OSBORNE

*Member of the Guatemalan Society of Geography and History*

AT THE National Academy of Fine Arts in Guatemala City an exhibition of the miniatures painted by the artist Francisco Cabrera was opened to the public on November 21, 1945, to commemorate the centenary of his death.

Artists of the colonial and republican era distinguished themselves in Guatemala. Nevertheless the work of Cabrera has been little known, until the present-day artist Humberto Garavito gathered together 162 photographs of the miniatures and 12



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

"UNKNOWN GENTLEMAN"



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

"UNKNOWN LADY"

originals and presented them to public view.

The work of Cabrera has been dispersed among the descendants of the people he portrayed with such technical perfection. His style is easily recognized once a few of the miniatures are studied. He painted the *caballeros* and *grandes dames* of society in his best style. Famous names pass in review. Every detail of the quaint hair-dressing, costumes, and jewelry is carefully outlined and the classical perfection of many subjects of that rigid colonial





Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

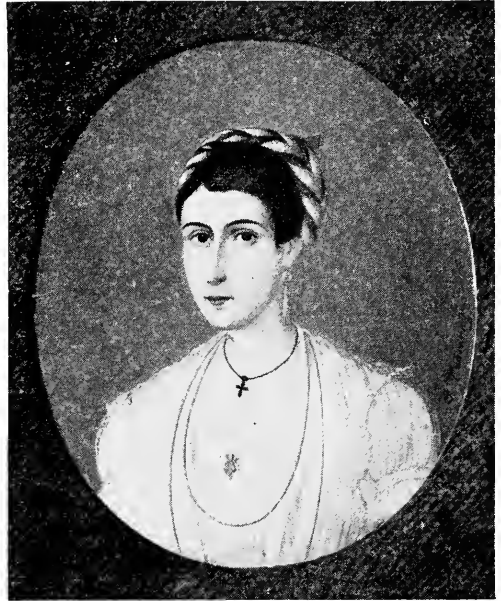
FRANCISCO CABRERA: SELF-PORTRAIT

society is no less painstakingly copied. Society, the *crème de la crème*, went in for extremely complicated costumes with jewelry of large dimensions which Cabrera faithfully rendered to the last detail. Whether it was the fashionable clothes or whether in reality it was the proper thing for ladies to have voluptuous contours and men to look rather starved, the fact remains that in these miniatures that is the case.

It is amusing to notice the prim, one might almost say startled, expressions of the sitters, as if they were not at all pleased at finding themselves on view by the public. There is not a smile or condescending expression in the whole lot. In fact, they all look stern and serious. Nevertheless, judging from these miniatures, the Guatemalans of latter colonial

and early republican days were a handsome race.

Several of the miniatures are labelled "Unknown Lady" or "Unknown Gentleman," as if these personages refused to allow their aristocratic names to appear in public. Photographs of the exquisite miniatures of Our Lady of the Rosary, Virgin with the Christ Child, and Our Lady of Mercy are exhibited, as is a portrait of Cabrera himself painted by his own brush.



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

ISABEL ORELLANA

As soon as this exhibition closes, Humberto Garavito will open an exhibition of his latest paintings: Guatemalan landscapes and portrayals of Indians. These will emphasize once more his reputation as the foremost Guatemalan painter today.

# A Concert Season in Rio de Janeiro

EVERETT HELM

TOWARD the end of March and the beginning of April, musical Rio begins to stir. Musicians and audience return from Petrópolis, Campos do Jordão, Caxambú, Teresópolis, and other favorite summer haunts. By the middle of April, music is well under way. The peak is reached in July, August, and September. The opera season in July and August is followed by the ballet season in late August and early September. During these winter months, too, many artists come to Latin America who otherwise perform principally in the United States. The months of October and November witness a certain falling-off—not so much of activity as of interest. People's musical appetites become somewhat jaded. This is natural, for the musical public of Rio is not very large. In proportion to the population, indeed, it is quite small, so that the same individuals—the real lovers of concert music—are in the position of carrying the load of the musical season. By the first of December, the concert business is very slack; by December 15, the season is dead.

Rio suffers acutely (as does Buenos Aires) from a shortage of concert halls. There are, in effect, only three which are suitable for music. One is the Teatro Municipal, a fine, large hall with good acoustics, seating well over 1,500 people. Naturally this hall is very much in demand. It is used by the two orchestras; the opera and ballet seasons take place there; and it is at the constant disposal of the municipal authorities for whatever public functions they deem necessary. To obtain, sometimes to keep, a date in the Teatro Municipal is extremely difficult.

Another hall, and an excellent one, is that of the ABI (Associação Brasileira da Imprensa—Brazilian Press Association). This hall is new, well appointed, and pleasant, but it seats no more than 500 people. It is excellent for chamber music and small recitals. For the international artist, it is too limited in size to make it a paying proposition.

Finally, there is the hall of the National School of Music. This auditorium is an exact replica of one in Germany and has good acoustics. It stands in need, however, of redecorating and especially of a new lighting system. It is used for many local concerts, especially those given in connection with the School, but is practically never used by visiting artists. For better or for worse, the tradition has grown up that the visiting artist *must* appear in the Municipal.

Despite the shortage in halls, the musical season is a spirited affair. Two orchestras function in Rio. One is the orchestra maintained by the Municipality; it is controlled by the city. It has no permanent conductor and, as a result, no regular discipline. Last year it was conducted in a series of six pairs of concerts by Erich Kleiber, who achieved remarkable results. Kleiber's concerts consisted principally of the performance of all the Beethoven symphonies and finally an all-Brazilian program. The Beethoven cycle was extremely well attended. The concert of modern Brazilian music was played to a half-empty hall; most of the season subscribers did not attend. The Municipal Orchestra subsequently played for the opera season and the ballet season, under local conductors.



Courtesy of Moore-McCormack Lines

### AVENIDA RIO BRANCO, RIO DE JANEIRO

The pillared building on the right is the Teatro Municipal, which contains the most popular concert hall in the Brazilian capital.

# THE BRAZILIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION BUILDING

The pleasant and well appointed hall of the Press Association seats 500 people.



Courtesy of Ernesto Galarza

The other orchestra is the Orquestra Sinfônica Brasileira. This is a private organization, supported by subscription and donation, which was founded about six years ago with the Hungarian Eugen Szenkar as the principal permanent conductor. Szenkar, who has recently become a naturalized Brazilian, conducts twenty pairs of subscription concerts annually for members of the Society. The repertoire is the standard symphonic one, but omits the

unusually difficult compositions. The orchestra plays well, and Szenkar deserves much credit for having founded and built up this organization. The O. S. B. also plays a series of Sunday concerts, in which it is conducted by José Siqueira, the president of the orchestra, and Eleazar de Carvalho, a young Brazilian composer and conductor.

The opera season lasts about two months. Last year's repertoire was confined almost

exclusively to the Italian favorites. The novelties of the season were *Norma* by Bellini and *The Slave* (Lo Schiavo) by the national music hero, Carlos Gomes. Performances of the *Marriage of Figaro* and *Boris Godunov* were promised, but never materialized, omissions which were sharply criticized in Rio. The casts were composed of Brazilian singers plus a number of stars imported from the Metropolitan.

The ballet season was considered extremely successful. The highly competent choreographer and ballet-master Igor Schwezoff was brought down from the United States to train and supervise the performances. The most successful pieces of the season, from the artistic point of view, were those created by Schwezoff himself, namely, *Luta Eterna* (Eternal Conflict), in which the *Symphonic Variations* of Schumann were danced in a convincing mixture of classic and contemporary ballet styles, and *Drama Burguês*, using the *Mephisto Waltz* of Liszt.

Throughout the musical season, the National School of Music sponsors a series of official concerts, which are open to the public without charge. This School, directed by Antônio Sá Pereira, forms part of the University of Brazil, and is therefore maintained by the national government. The concerts in this series display considerable variety, ranging from vocal and piano recitals by local artists to symphonic concerts (such as the one directed by Karl Kruger during his visit to Rio), and including special events, for instance the concert of chamber music of Everett Helm.

The Sociedade de Cultura Artística is responsible for the presentation of leading national and international virtuosos. This is an organization which has counterparts in many other cities of Brazil. Admission to its concerts is open only to members, who subscribe on a yearly basis. During

the 1945 season it presented, among others, Claudio Arrau, Daniel Ericourt, Ricardo Odnoposoff, Lydia Kindermann, Alice Ribeiro, Albert Spaulding, and Yara Bernette. In the main, these programs conform to the standard repertoire, which the audiences of this society appear to demand. The only exception during this season was an all-Fauré program organized by Magdalena Tagliaferro.

The most interesting programs, from a musical point of view, were those presented by the Sociedade Brasileira de Música de Câmara (Brazilian Chamber Music Society). This society was formed only this year, although the heart of it—the Borgerth Quartet—has played the highest type of music in Rio de Janeiro for the past ten years. The artistic level of the quartet is of the first order and the programs are well chosen and carefully prepared. This is the only organization that regularly performs modern music. This year's repertoire included compositions by Benjamin Britten, Villa-Lobos, Honegger, Respighi, Lorenzo Fernandes, and others. The president of this society is an eminent Brazilian poet, Manuel Bandeira.

Two other chamber music groups functioned more or less intermittently during the season. One, the Quartet of Rio de Janeiro, was unable to finish the season because the first violin left the country temporarily. The other, the Quartet Society, was also the victim of changes in personnel.

The Conservatório Nacional de Canto Orfeônico (National Conservatory of Choral Singing) directed by Heitor Villa-Lobos, gave an interesting series of *Sabatinas* (Saturday Afternoons). These are in the nature not so much of public concerts as of interesting music performed by teachers of the Conservatory or visitors to Rio. No admission is charged. One of these *Sabatinas* consisted of a per-

formance of works by Stanley Bate, a young English composer who spent the season in Rio. Another program was devoted to the works of the Brazilian composer Fructuoso Vianna.

Younger performers of Rio were presented in a new series of recitals called *Valores Novos*—New Talents. These concerts took place in the auditorium and under the auspices of the Brazilian Press Association. Much of the credit for their organization goes to Herbert Moses, the president of the association, and to Silva Reille, journalist and violinist.

An unusual series of concerts was given under the joint sponsorship of the National School of Music, the American Embassy, and the Instituto Interamericano de Musicologia, of which last Dr. Francisco Curt Lange is Director. The series was called "Chamber Music of the Americas," and was composed of modern works by North and South American composers, including Harris, Copland, Piston, Helm, Porter, Ginastera, Santa Cruz, Villa-Lobos, Fernandes, Santoro, Ficher, Plaza, Tosak Errecart. The public for these free concerts, well attended in the beginning, diminished almost to the vanishing point by the end of the season. This may

be for one of two reasons: either the Carioca public does not like modern music, or the works presented were not chosen with sufficient discrimination and were not adequately performed. Or both.

One of the most noticeable features of the entire season is the small amount of modern music performed. With the exception of the instances mentioned above, and an occasional performance of a modern work by the Orquestra Sinfônica Brasileira, the Carioca public has little opportunity to know and appreciate music since Debussy. Hindemith, Stravinsky, Bartók are seldom, if ever, heard. The modern English school is completely unknown. Brahms, for that matter, is played only once in a blue moon. The result is indifference and antipathy on the part of the public toward new music.

A curious anomaly is the indifference of the Brazilian public toward its own composers. The country which has produced the most important school of composition in Latin America is the last to recognize its value. One is forced to admire the tenacity with which Brazilian composers such as Villa-Lobos, Fernandes, Mignone, Guarnieri, and Gnattali have carried on with a minimum of public encouragement.



# Women of the Americas

## Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

### *South American trip of the United States member*

Miss Mary M. Cannon, Chief of the Inter-American Division of the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, and United States member of the Inter-American Commission of Women, recently returned from a journey that took her to various South American countries for the purpose of working out a scheme of coordination of the problems of women workers.

The principal object of the trip was to deliver a series of lectures at the Labor University of Uruguay, in response to an invitation of that institution. She also was a member of the official United States delegation to the First Pan American Congress of Social Service in Santiago, Chile, in September 1945.

In Montevideo she spoke at the Labor University on Women in the War and Postwar Periods; Outline of Labor Legislation in the United States; Special Labor Legislation for Women Workers; and the Participation of Women Workers in the United States Labor Movement. She also spoke before four women's organizations on women's activities throughout the Continent.

Miss Cannon then returned to Chile at the invitation of the Minister of Commerce and Economy to work with the Consumers' Leagues, and she also consulted with the Chilean Department of Labor on a program of cooperation with the Department of Labor of the United States. Later she went to Lima to consult with the Peruvian Department of Labor and while there she gave several addresses.

In these three countries, and in Argentina as well, which Miss Cannon visited briefly, she had opportunity to meet the leaders of various women's organizations and discuss problems with them.

### *New Members*

Two new members have joined their colleagues on the Inter-American Commission of Women: Senhorita Leontina Licinio Cardoso of Brazil and Señorita Guillermina López Martínez of Guatemala.

Senhorita Licinio Cardoso belongs to the earnest and enthusiastic group of women in the Brazilian Federation for Women's Progress. This organization works to help raise the cultural level of the women of Brazil, aiming especially to acquaint them with politico-social problems and to educate them to help solve those problems. Senhorita Licinio Cardoso has collaborated in that organization with Bertha Lutz, Ana Amelia Queiroz Carneiro de Mendonça, Jeronima Mesquita, and other distinguished Brazilian feminists. She has also taken part in many conferences on postwar problems, particularly on the topics of education and social welfare.

Señorita Guillermina López Martínez came to the United States in 1935 and studied at the University of Texas. Since 1941 she has been a member of the staff of the Guatemalan Embassy in Washington. All during the war she did Red Cross work, having served at both Walter Reed and Garfield Hospitals in Washington, and in view of the continuing need for such assistance, she is still on duty in both.





## 25th ANNIVERSARY OF DR. HUGH S. CUMMING, DIRECTOR OF THE PAN AMERICAN SANITARY BUREAU

On December 20, 1945, a ceremony in honor of Dr. Cumming took place in the patio of the Pan American Union. Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Union, said:

"Dr. Cumming: We have assembled this morning to congratulate you on the completion of twenty-five years of devoted service to the cause of inter-American cooperation. From modest beginnings you have brought the Pan American Sanitary Bureau to a position of outstanding influence in promoting the health and well being of the nations of this continent. All the republics of the Americas owe you a debt of gratitude. The Governing Board of the Pan American Union at its last meeting unanimously adopted a resolution, a copy of which I have the honor of presenting to you. In doing so, permit me to combine therewith the warmest wishes of the entire staff of the Pan American Union for your health and happiness, and to express the hope that you will continue for many years as directing head of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau."

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The Pan American Sanitary Bureau, created by the American Republics, is the oldest existing official international organization devoted to public health;

WHEREAS, The labors of this institution have repeatedly been approved and commended by the International Conferences of American States; by this Governing Board at its meeting on April 26, 1944; and more recently by the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, which met at Chapultepec from February 21 to March 8, 1945;

WHEREAS, The steady development and the success of the Bureau's labors are due largely to the interest and personal efforts of its Director, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming;

WHEREAS, Dr. Cumming has discharged his duties without remuneration and given them his personal attention and care; and

WHEREAS, On December 20, 1945, Dr. Cumming will have completed twenty-five years as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, a position to which he has been unanimously reelected time after time,

The Governing Board of the Pan American Union

### RESOLVES:

To extend to Dr. Cumming its cordial greetings and congratulations, and to express its appreciation of the exemplary devotion with which, during these twenty-five years, he has furthered the cause of health in the American Republics on the basis of reciprocal cooperation.

In the photograph appear, from left to right, Dr. Pedro de Alba, Assistant Director of the Pan American Union; Dr. João de Barros Barreto, Honorary Chairman, Pan American Sanitary Bureau Council; Dr. Cumming; Dr. Rowe; and Dr. A. A. Moll, Secretary, Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

# The Americas and the War

TO KEEP the readers of the BULLETIN informed of the various measures dealing with the war and its effects taken by the American Republics since the United States was attacked by Japan on December 7, 1941, a continuing list is being compiled of laws, decrees, acts, orders, and resolutions published in official gazettes or noted in other publications received at the Pan American Union. While it is attempted to make each monthly installment of the compilation as complete as possible, it is inevitable that some measures should be omitted, because of uncertain mails and other difficulties.

When a reference stands by itself in parentheses, it is the official source for an item for which an unofficial source was previously given. In order to preserve the numbering of the measures mentioned in the preceding issues, items listed in this number whose dates fall between those of measures already published are inserted with letters following the number.

The official gazettes of the Latin Ameri-

can countries are as follows: Argentina, *Boletín Oficial*; Brazil, *Diário Oficial*; Chile, *Diario Oficial*; Colombia, *Diario Oficial*; Costa Rica, *Gaceta Oficial*; Cuba, *Gaceta Oficial*; Dominican Republic, *Gaceta Oficial*; El Salvador, *Diario Oficial*; Ecuador, *Registro Oficial*; Guatemala, *Diario de Centro América*; Haiti, *Le Moniteur*; Honduras, *La Gaceta*; Mexico, *Diario Oficial*; Nicaragua, *La Gaceta*; Panama, *Gaceta Oficial*; Paraguay, *Gaceta Oficial*; Peru, *El Peruano*; Uruguay, *Diario Oficial*; and Venezuela, *Gaceta Oficial*.

No items are given for the United States except under *Bilateral and Multilateral Measures*.

The list was begun in the April 1942 number of the BULLETIN, and omissions will be supplied as information is received from official or other sources. When notice of a measure has been taken from an unofficial account, the official source will be given as soon as it is available.

This list will be concluded as of V-J Day, September 2, 1945.

## PART XLVII

### ARGENTINA

257a. June 25, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 13,710, transferring from the General Office of Industry to the General Office of Domestic Commerce the function of registering companies engaged in spinning, weaving, retailing, or importing cotton yarn (see Decree No. 17,693, Argentina 142e, BULLETIN, May 1945), eliminating the Commission on the Cotton Textile Industry, and placing under the jurisdiction of the National Rationing Council all matters relating to the production, importation, distribution, and consumption of cotton thread and textiles. (*Boletín Oficial*, July 10, 1945.)

262a. July 4, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 14,805, requiring the declaration of stocks of

natural and synthetic rubber and of automobile tires and tubes within twenty days after publication of this decree, issued in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 3,657 of February 21, 1945 (see Argentina 223, BULLETIN, September 1945). (*Boletín Oficial*, July 10, 1945.)

284a. July 31, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 17,156, establishing in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship a Commission to investigate the possible clandestine existence in the country of funds, securities, credit, or other assets belonging to enterprises, citizens, or governments of enemy countries. (*Boletín Oficial*, August 25, 1945.)

291a. August 20, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 18,936, authorizing Argentine citizens serving in the armed forces of countries at war with the Axis

*Severences of Diplomatic Relations, Declarations of War, and Signature of the Joint Declaration by the United Nations*

	SEVERENCES OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS				DECLARATIONS OF WAR OR STATE OF BELLIGERENCY <sup>8 12</sup>			Signature of the Joint Declaration by the United Nations
	Germany and Italy	Japan	Bulgaria Hungary Rumania	Vichy France <sup>1</sup>	Germany and Italy	Japan	Bulgaria <sup>2</sup> Rumania <sup>3</sup> Hungary <sup>4</sup>	
Argentina.....	<sup>5</sup> 1-26-44	1-26-44	2-4-44	2-4-44	G-3-27-45	3-27-45	.....	.....
Bolivia.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	.....	.....	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43	.....	<sup>6</sup> 4-7-43
Brazil.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	(?)	.....	8-22-42	6-6-45	.....	2-6-43
Chile.....	1-20-43	1-20-43	5-18-43	5-18-43	<sup>8</sup> G-2-12-45	<sup>8</sup> 2-12-45	.....	2-14-45
Colombia.....	12-19-41	12-8-41	.....	11-26-42	G-11-27-43	.....	.....	1-17-44
Costa Rica.....	.....	.....	H-5-15-42 R-5-15-42	.....	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Cuba.....	.....	.....	.....	11-9-42	12-11-41	12-9-41	.....	1-1-42
Dominican Republic.....	.....	.....	.....	11-26-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Ecuador.....	1-29-42	1-29-42	.....	.....	.....	<sup>9</sup> 12-7-41	.....	2-14-45
El Salvador.....	.....	.....	.....	11-13-42	12-12-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Guatemala.....	.....	.....	.....	11-12-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Haiti.....	.....	.....	.....	11-10-42	12-12-41	12-8-41	12-24-41	1-1-42
Honduras.....	.....	.....	.....	11-13-42	12-13-41	12-8-41	.....	1-1-42
Mexico.....	12-11-41	12-8-41	B-12-20-41 H-12-19-41 ( <sup>10</sup> )	11-9-42	5-22-42	5-22-42	.....	6-14-42
Nicaragua.....	.....	.....	.....	11-10-42	12-11-41	12-8-41	12-19-41	1-1-42
Panama.....	.....	.....	.....	1-13-42	12-12-41	<sup>11</sup> 12-7-41	.....	1-1-42
Paraguay.....	1-28-42	1-28-42	.....	.....	G-2-7-45	2-7-45	.....	2-14-45
Peru.....	1-24-42	1-24-42	.....	1-26-43	<sup>12</sup> G-2-11-45	<sup>12</sup> 2-11-45	.....	2-14-45
United States.....	.....	.....	.....	( <sup>13</sup> )	12-11-41	12-8-41	6-5-42	1-1-42
Uruguay.....	1-25-42	1-25-42	.....	5-12-43	2-22-45	2-22-45	.....	2-24-45
Venezuela.....	12-31-41	12-31-41	.....	11-26-42	<sup>8</sup> 2-14-45	<sup>8</sup> 2-14-45	.....	2-20-45

<sup>1</sup> Evacuation of the German-controlled Vichy Government was reported to be complete by August 18, 1944. The French Committee of National Liberation, which on June 2, 1944, voted to change its name to the Provisional Government of the French Republic, headed by General de Gaulle, had already begun to assume the functions of government, having worked in cooperation with General Eisenhower, Allied Commander in Chief, through liaison officers following the start of the Allied invasion of France on D-Day, June 6, 1944. (*New York Times*, May 16, June 3, August 19, 1944.)

<sup>2</sup> Bulgaria ceased hostilities with the U.S.S.R. on September 9, 1944; severed relations with Germany on September 6, 1944 and with Hungary on September 26, 1944; and then ceased hostilities against all other United Nations. At Moscow on October 28, 1944, Bulgaria accepted the armistice terms presented by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.S.R. on behalf of all the United Nations at war with Bulgaria. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, October 29, 1944.)

<sup>3</sup> Under the terms of an armistice signed at Moscow September 12, 1944, Rumania, as of August 24, 1944, withdrew from the war against the United Nations, broke off relations with Germany and its satellites, and entered the war on the side of the Allied Powers against Germany and Hungary. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, September 17, 1944.)

<sup>4</sup> Under the terms of an armistice signed at Moscow, January 20, 1945, between the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States on the one hand and Hungary on the other, Hungary withdrew from the war against the U.S.S.R. and other United Nations, including Czechoslovakia, severed all relations with Germany, and declared war on Germany. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, January 21, 1945.)

<sup>5</sup> Argentina severed relations with Germany and Japan only, since Italy had severed relations with Germany on October 13, 1943, and was thenceforth considered a co-belligerent by the United Nations.

<sup>6</sup> The decree of April 7, 1943, by which a state of war was declared to exist between Bolivia and the Axis powers, and under which the Bolivian Government adhered to the United Nations Declaration, was sanctioned by the Bolivian Congress on November 26, 1943, and on December 4, 1943, a decree was promulgated formally declaring that Bolivia is at war with the Axis. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, December 11, 1943.)

<sup>7</sup> Rumania and Hungary severed diplomatic relations with Brazil on March 6 and May 5, 1942, respectively. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 20, 1943.)

<sup>8</sup> State of belligerency.

<sup>9</sup> Ecuador declared war on Japan February 2, 1945, retroactive to December 7, 1941.

<sup>10</sup> Mexico had no treaty of friendship or diplomatic relations with Rumania. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 20, 1943.)

<sup>11</sup> Panama declared war on December 10, 1941, retroactive to December 7.

<sup>12</sup> "State of effective belligerency."

<sup>13</sup> The Vichy Government severed diplomatic relations with the United States on November 8, 1942. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 14, 1942.)

<sup>14</sup> Declaration of war on Japan by the Chilean Senate.

powers (see Argentina 230*b*, BULLETIN, October 1945), to accept and wear decorations awarded by those countries. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 10, 1945.)

295*a*. August 23, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 19,344, transferring the Board for Surveillance and Final Disposal of Enemy Property from the Department of Industry and Commerce to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 10, 1945.)

## BRAZIL

197. August 7, 1945. Directive No. 22, Coordinator of Economic Mobilization, lifting all consumption and selling restrictions on imported cement and fixing maximum consumer prices therefor. (*Diário Oficial*, August 10, 1945.)

198. August 15, 1945. Decree-Law No. 7869, declaring August 15, 1945, a national holiday in celebration of the end of the war. (*Diário Oficial*, August 16, 1945.)

199. August 28, 1945. Order No. 400, Coordinator of Economic Mobilization, transferring the control of domestic fibers and their manufactures from the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization to the Executive Textile Commission. (*Diário Oficial*, August 29, 1945.)

## ECUADOR

107*a*. May 2, 1945. Resolution No. 65-a-bis, Ministry of Economy, assigning to the Foreign Trade Director the duties and functions of the General Director of the Blocked Property Control Office. (*Registro Oficial*, August 28, 1945.)

118*a*. August 13, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 1310, regulating the exportation of essential food

products by requiring prior permit, and making other pertinent rules and regulations. (*Registro Oficial*, August 13, 1945.)

## PERU

111*a*. January 21, 1944. Law No. 9912, providing that money and securities subject to restrictions established by laws Nos. 9586 and 9592 of April 10, 1942 and June 26, 1942 (see Peru 12 and 18, BULLETIN, August and October 1942), be placed in trust in the Bank of Deposits and Consignments, and making other pertinent provisions. (*Revista de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas*, Lima, Año VIII, Núm. 1, *Primer Trimestre*, 1944.)

111*b*. January 21, 1944. Supreme Decree providing that the Office of Bank Supervision proceed with the liquidation of the German Transatlantic Bank, the official administration of the bank having fulfilled its functions in accordance with the Supreme Decree of September 5, 1942 (see Peru 31*b*, BULLETIN, February 1943). (*Revista de Derecho y Ciencias Políticas*, Lima, Año VIII, Núm. 1, *Primer Trimestre*, 1944.)

## URUGUAY

279*a*. August 16, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 3556/939, issuing new regulations on the functioning of amateur radio stations, in view of the cessation of the war. (*Diario Oficial*, August 27, 1945.)

279*b*. August 16, 1945. Presidential Decree No. 5327, repealing the decrees of December 29, 1941 and September 10, 1942 (see Uruguay 4*d* and 82*a*, BULLETIN, May 1942 and March 1943) and other specified legislation pertaining to aviation; prohibiting all aviation activity by Axis subjects; and making other provisions to control aviation in the republic. (*Diario Oficial*, August 27, 1945.)

# Pan American News

## *Postwar measures in the American Republics*

With the conclusion as of V-J day, September 2, 1945, of the section of the BULLETIN called "The Americas and the War," started in the April 1942 issue, the BULLETIN proposes to publish information regarding postwar and transition measures adopted by the American Republics, particularly with regard to the restoration of constitutional guarantees; the lifting or extension of controls; economic developments; alien property matters; claims for war damages; and bilateral and multilateral agreements on any subject resulting from the war. This is the first of these compilations.

In compliance with Resolution No. 7 adopted at the Chapultepec Conference, concerning the elimination of centers of subversive influence and means of preventing the admission of dangerous deportees and propaganda agents, Argentina on September 3, 1945, by Presidential Decree No. 20,497, ordered the closing of ten Axis publishing enterprises. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 12, 1945.)

By means of Presidential Decree No. 3464, Cuba lifted as of November 14, 1945, the postal and telecommunications censorship that had been in effect since January 5, 1942. (*Gaceta Oficial*, November 14, 1945.)

In the Dominican Republic Presidential Decree No. 2960, approved September 7, 1945, lifted all restrictions on the importation, distribution, storage, and sale of imported goods, with the temporary exception of cotton and rayon textiles and manu-

factures, motor vehicles, and tires, the distribution of which was left with the General Import and Export Control Office. On October 29 Presidential Decree No. 3072 authorized the removal of controls on the distribution, sale, and use of petroleum and its derivatives, although the same decree gave the National Transportation Commission authority to regulate motor vehicle transportation throughout the Republic. (*Gaceta Oficial*, September 12 and October 30, 1945, respectively.)

In view of United States action in discontinuing the requirement of export recommendations as of October 1, 1945, El Salvador repealed the Executive Decree of March 18, 1943, which required importers to obtain import licenses through the Committee on Economic Coordination. A Permanent Defense Council was established by Executive Decree No. 4, dated October 20, 1945, for the purpose of coordinating, directing, and putting into effect in El Salvador the resolutions and agreements of the Inter-American Defense Board. (*Diario Oficial*, October 18 and October 26, 1945.)

On September 10, 1945, an emergency law in Mexico declared all federal income resulting from any law or decree issued under authority of the decree of June 1, 1942 (which suspended certain constitutional guarantees and gave the President special war powers) to be contributions to national defense, and outlawed any claims against the nation because of such laws or decrees, except in cases of illegal application. A decree was approved September 13, 1945, providing for the insti-

tution by the Interdepartmental Board on Enemy Property and Business of a Claims Registry for Mexicans who suffered personal or property damage through acts of enemy nations during the war. A decree of September 28, 1945, lifted, with certain exceptions, the suspension of constitutional guarantees imposed by the decree of June 1, 1942, and ratified all executive decrees issued during the emergency period. (*Diario Oficial*, September 13, September 28, and October 1, 1945, respectively.)

Restrictions on tire and tube imports were removed in Panama by Presidential Decree No. 722 of October 5, 1945, although their sale and distribution remains subject to previously established controls. The housing shortage, a result of wartime activity, was attacked by the Government of Panama by means of Presidential Decree No. 1299 of October 11, 1945, which authorized the temporary occupation and use of certain types of houses in Panama and Colón as lodgings for persons unable to find living quarters. The Rent Boards of the two cities were charged with putting the decree into effect. (*Gaceta Oficial*, October 12 and October 26, 1945.)

Telecommunications restrictions, applied in Paraguay by Decree-Law No. 11,062 of February 16, 1942, were removed by Decree-Law No. 10,476 of October 4, 1945. Decree No. 10,478 of October 5, 1945, ordered the seizure of the Compañía Internacional de Teléfonos, in accordance with the nation's inter-American commitments entered into at Rio de Janeiro in 1942 and at the Chapultepec conference in 1945. Decree No. 10,504 of October 8, 1945, fixed basic prices for domestic wheat and conditions governing wheat marketing. The Agricultural Bank of Paraguay was authorized to acquire seed

wheat and sell it to farmers at a cost-plus-expenses price, as well as to buy any amount of wheat necessary, at fixed prices, and to market it in order to guarantee minimum prices, although such action on the Bank's part implies no restriction on free trade in wheat among producers, millers, and merchants. Any profits the Bank makes on these transactions are to be deposited in a special "Wheat Development" account to help defray expenses of the wheat development and improvement program. (*Gaceta Oficial*, October 4 and October 9, 1945.)

Foreigners who were formerly residents of Uruguay and who left the country to fight in the armies of any of the United Nations during the war were granted special facilities for returning to the country after their release from service. Presidential Decree No. 3511/944 of September 13, 1945, provided that their re-entry permits should be continued in effect for one year following their demobilization; those who had no such permits may return to Uruguay upon presenting satisfactory proof of their previous residence in the country and of their military service. Permits were also authorized for the wives whom such men may have married after they left Uruguay. (*Diario Oficial*, September 22, 1945.)

Certain constitutional guarantees, which had been suspended during the course of the war in Venezuela, were restored in full by Presidential Decree No. 292 of September 15, 1945. Restrictions on telecommunications were also lifted by a Ministry of Labor and Communications resolution on the same date. Presidential Decree No. 293, however, also dated September 15, established a new system of annual import quotas for articles as determined by the Ministry of the Treasury. The distribution of quotas among national industry

and business will be made by the National Supply Commission, and no goods may be imported without authorization of the Ministry of the Treasury. (*Gaceta Oficial*, September 15, 1945.)

With the deposit with the United States Department of State of the Soviet Union's instrument of ratification of the Charter of the United Nations on October 24, 1945, the Charter, together with the Statute of the International Court of Justice, came into force on that date. After that time, the following American Republics deposited their ratifications: Peru, October 31, 1945; Costa Rica, November 2; Colombia, November 5; Mexico, November 7; Bolivia, November 14; Venezuela, November 15; Guatemala, November 21; Honduras, December 17; Uruguay, December 18; and Ecuador, December 21. These complete the deposits of ratifications by the American republics. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 18 and December 9, 1945.)

### *Mexican-United States water treaty*

On September 27, 1945, the Mexican Senate voted its approval of the water treaty signed in Washington between Mexico and the United States on February 3, 1944 (see BULLETIN, April 1944, pp. 234-236), the supplementary protocol signed in Washington on November 14, 1944, and the clarifications to the text of the treaty made by the United States Senate when that body gave its consent to ratification on April 18, 1945. The Mexican Senate decree was signed by the President of Mexico on September 29, 1945, and was published in the *Diario Oficial* of Mexico on October 30, 1945. The treaty entered into force on the day

of the exchange of ratifications, November 8, 1945.

This treaty, the result of long and careful study by both governments, provides for a fair allocation of the waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande below Fort Quitman, Texas. To make effective the provisions on allocation of water, the treaty calls for the construction of certain international storage, flood control, and diversion dams and other incidental works on the Lower Rio Grande. Since from Fort Quitman, Texas, to the Gulf of Mexico the Rio Grande is the boundary between the two nations, these works are obviously international in character. Certain international storage dams are specifically provided for by the treaty, but with respect to other works there is no absolute obligation on the part of the two Governments to construct any of them. Plans will be studied and recommendations made but only with the approval of the two governments can any such works, including hydroelectric plants at the international storage dams, be built.

With respect to the Colorado River, the treaty calls for a Mexican diversion structure, and Mexico must further make provision for the construction of such levees, interior drainage facilities, and other works as may be necessary to protect lands within the United States against damage from floods and seepage resulting from the construction, operation, and maintenance of the diversion structure. The United States agrees to build the Davis storage dam and reservoir within its own territory and to construct or acquire in its own territory the works necessary to convey water to the Mexican diversion points on the international land boundaries, including (1) the canal and other works from the lower end of the Pilot Knob Wasteway to the international boundary





Photograph by W. B. Larsen

#### INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE OVER THE RIO GRANDE AT LAREDO

and (2) if requested by Mexico, a canal connecting the Mexican main diversion structure with the Mexican canal system at the international boundary near San Luis, Sonora. These works, with the exception of the Davis dam, are to be constructed or acquired, and operated and maintained at the expense of Mexico.

With respect to the Tijuana River, investigations will be made and recommendations submitted to the two governments concerning the equitable distribution of the river system, plans for storage and flood control, estimates of costs, and recommendations as to the manner in which the works or costs thereof shall be prorated between the two governments.

General supervision of the admini-

stration of the water treaty is delegated to an old and experienced agency, the International Boundary Commission, United States and Mexico. This Commission was created by a convention between the two nations dated March 1, 1889, to consider all differences or questions arising on the water boundary between the two countries. Although the life of the Commission was originally fixed at five years, it was extended from time to time, and by the convention of November 21, 1900, it was extended indefinitely. By means of later instruments (the Banco Convention of 1905, the Water Convention of 1906, the Rectification Convention of 1933), as well as by the exchange of diplomatic notes and by acts of Congress, its powers and duties were also extended. On

the date the new water treaty entered into force, the International Boundary Commission's name was changed to the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico.

### *Latin American soldiers return home*

Brazil and Mexico, the only two Latin American nations that sent fighting troops into battle along with the armies of other United Nations, recently had the joy of welcoming their men home from the battlefronts of Europe and the Pacific.

Brazil's troops, who fought in Italy, returned to Rio de Janeiro on September 17, 1945. The day was declared a holiday in the Federal District and an enthusiastic welcoming festival was held.

Air Squadron 201, the Mexican air group that fought against Japan in the Pacific, arrived in Mexico City on November 18, 1945. A parade and other appropriate ceremonies were held to mark their homecoming.

In connection with Brazil's participation in the war, figures were recently published on the country's merchant shipping losses during the submarine activity in the early days of the war. Thirty-one merchant vessels were lost, representing a total tonnage of 189,294; 457 merchant seamen went down with their ships and 538 passengers likewise.

### *New bridge links Argentina and Brazil*

On October 12, 1945, the new bridge over the Uruguay River between Paso de los Libres, Argentina, and Uruguayana, Brazil, was opened to traffic. This event marked the climax of eleven years of cooperative effort on the part of the two neighbor

countries. After the signing in 1934 at Rio de Janeiro of the original agreement providing for the construction of the bridge, a mixed commission, consisting of engineers from both countries, was appointed. This commission made comparative studies of the commerce, industries, means of communication, and population of various frontier cities, as well as geological and hydrographic surveys before deciding on the present location for the bridge.

Each country undertook to construct the section of the bridge on its side of the international frontier, which runs through the center of the river. The two sections are identical in every way, except that the approach on the Argentine side is necessarily longer because of the swampy ground in that area. Mutual assistance was given in the acquisition of building materials, machinery, and other essentials. The iron and wood used in the Argentine section came from Brazil, and the cement used in the Brazilian section was of Argentine origin.

It is a combination railway and highway bridge, and there are sidewalks to accommodate pedestrians. The total length of the bridge is about 4,656 feet. Both narrow and medium gauge tracks were laid, the former inside the latter. The bridge connects the Northeast Argentine Railway with the Rio Grande Railway on the Brazilian side, and with the completion of the Cruzú-Cautía-Paso de los Libres stretch of the Argentine state-owned railways, the latter system will also be linked with the railways of Brazil.

### *Reorganization of administrative divisions in El Salvador*

The Government of El Salvador has recently announced a new organization of its administrative divisions, to replace that

established in February 1945. The Ministry of the Interior has passed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Division of Justice, and to the Ministry of Culture the Division of Social Welfare, but has regained from the Ministry of Economy the Division of Labor. Interior's Division of Government once more controls communications services, and its erstwhile Division of Communications and Public Works has been dissolved. The Division of Development reappears, with all public works under its jurisdiction.

The various administrative units are now distributed as follows among the five Ministries: Ministry of Foreign Affairs—Foreign Affairs and Justice; Ministry of the Interior—Government, Labor, and Development; Ministry of Economy—Treasury and Public Credit, Agriculture, and Industry and Commerce; Ministry of Culture—Popular Culture and Social Welfare; and the Ministry of Defense—National Defense and Public Security.

### *Peruvian foreign trade in 1944*

According to a report recently published by Peru's Department of Customs Statistics, the value of the country's foreign trade in 1944 amounted to nearly 1,062,000,000 soles—an increase of about 17 percent over the 1943 figure, in spite of wartime difficulties and restrictions. The value of imports was 14 percent higher than in 1943, and that of exports increased by 19 percent.

The leading imports were wheat, machinery, rice, butter, wood, iron and steel, piping, jute bags, trucks and chassis, fertilizers, tires, rails, automobile parts, petroleum lubricating oils, and agricultural tools. Heading the list of exports were sugar, petroleum derivatives, copper, cotton, lead, mineral concentrates, wool,

gold, flax, bismuth, elastic gums, silver articles, hides and skins, and fish.

The principal purchasers of Peruvian products during 1944 were the United States (to which went 36 percent of the total value of exports), Chile (24 percent), Bolivia (7 percent), and Great Britain (4 percent). The chief sources of imports were the United States, Argentina, Chile, and Australia, which supplied 54 percent, 18 percent, 5 percent, and 4 percent of the total value, respectively.

### *Bolivian Government stimulates national industry*

In order to promote a more widespread acquaintance with the products of domestic industry among the country's consuming public, the Bolivian Government has recently issued a decree requiring all merchants who sell goods of foreign manufacture to keep in stock similar goods manufactured in Bolivia. The decree also provides for annual industrial expositions, to be held in department capitals and other leading cities under the sponsorship of the National Chamber of Commerce and other chambers of commerce throughout the country. Merchandise destined for these expositions will enjoy a discount in freight charges on government-owned railroads, and will not be subject to tax. The goods may be sold at whatever price the exhibitor can obtain. The cities are obliged to provide the chambers of commerce with suitable quarters for the expositions free of charge, as well as police protection and any other public facilities requested.

Funds for industrial prizes will be set aside each year in the national budget, and preference in the awarding of these prizes will be given to manufacturers taking part in the various expositions, and

to those employing the greatest proportion of domestic raw material and labor.

### *Credit for national development in Ecuador*

Statistics were recently published showing the first year's activity of Ecuador's National Development Bank and the Provincial Development Banks. These banks operate under the provisions of a decree of October 6, 1943, as amended by a decree of December 28, 1943. Their purpose, briefly stated, is to assist in the development of agricultural and industrial production throughout the Republic, and

to grant the credits necessary for such development.

The published figures indicate that the 15 provincial banks experienced an increase in their initial capital amounting to 1,527,626 sucres (one sucre equals \$0.0726 U. S.). They began business with a total capital of 60,335,194 sucres and as of June 30, 1945, the figure had reached 61,862,820 sucres.

Credits totaling 126,803,294 sucres were granted by the banks in the form of contract, crop and production, and mortgage loans, and were distributed among the various provinces and different lines of business activity as follows:

Provincial Bank	Commerce	Agriculture	Industry	Total
	<i>Sucres</i>	<i>Sucres</i>	<i>Sucres</i>	<i>Sucres</i>
Carchi . . . . .	1, 383, 220	2, 256, 806	56, 500	3, 696, 526
Imbabura . . . . .	1, 048, 050	1, 122, 000	755, 300	2, 925, 350
Pichincha . . . . .	102, 900	6, 442, 432	3, 440, 240	9, 985, 572
Cotopaxi . . . . .	1, 863, 259	2, 736, 400	1, 168, 450	5, 768, 109
Tungurahua . . . . .	1, 178, 635	1, 974, 065	2, 807, 385	5, 960, 084
Chimborazo . . . . .	3, 142, 884	2, 997, 286	1, 549, 021	7, 689, 191
Bolívar . . . . .	840, 091	1, 542, 483	171, 060	2, 553, 524
Cañar . . . . .	430, 170	304, 300	196, 900	931, 370
Azuay . . . . .		2, 594, 827	1, 044, 600	3, 639, 427
Loja . . . . .	1, 719, 709	1, 999, 150	650, 000	4, 368, 860
Esmeraldas . . . . .	2, 795, 379	1, 219, 796	332, 802	4, 347, 977
Manabí . . . . .	7, 201, 814	20, 517, 910	2, 010, 433	29, 730, 157
Los Ríos . . . . .	859, 917	10, 604, 870	1, 135, 650	12, 600, 437
Guayas . . . . .		23, 436, 328	6, 012, 918	29, 449, 245
El Oro . . . . .	470, 307	2, 544, 557	142, 600	3, 157, 465
Total . . . . .	23, 036, 335	82, 293, 210	21, 473, 589	126, 803, 294

Figured on a percentage basis, it is seen that 16.9 percent of total credits were granted to industry, 18.2 percent to commerce, and the remainder, 64.9 percent, to agriculture and stock raising. This is natural, of course, considering that Ecuador is basically an agricultural country, and that the development of its farm and livestock production, the opening of new areas to cultivation, colonization of unused lands, irrigation, marketing, and kindred activities for which the credits are being

extended, will add enormously to the national income. As resources of the banks increase with time, the benefits of this credit system, already apparent after only one year's operation, will be even more extensive and effective.

### *Venezuela imports fine cattle*

Venezuela's National Production Board is initiating a plan to import from the United States 4,000 head of cattle for breeding

purposes. The Board is paying for the cattle, and the Ministry of Agriculture is contributing part of the costs of transportation, acclimatization, veterinary care, and other expenses involved in delivering the animals in good condition to the ultimate purchasers. It is estimated that the value of each animal is about 800 bolívares (\$239, U. S. cy.), but in order to facilitate their acquisition by stock raisers, the government is selling them for only 600 bolívares. The cattle will be sold only to those who can give them adequate care, and who will benefit from their possession. In addition to cattle, certain breeds of burros, goats, and hogs are included in the project. This is the first large-scale program of this type in the history of the country, and it is expected to have widespread effects on the development of the nation's vital stock raising industry.

### *The I. I. A. A. Food Mission in Honduras*

On June 30, 1945, the Food Mission in Honduras of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs was dissolved, and the work that it had been carrying on since its beginning in November 1942 was taken over by the Honduran Commission on Food and Agriculture. During its two and a half years of existence, the activities of the Mission centered around the establishment and operation of three agricultural experiment stations, located at Comayagua, Toncontín, and Danlí. The station at Comayagua specializes in the improvement of stock-raising and dairying methods, and carries on trial plantings of many varieties of such crops as corn, rice, beans, sugar cane, alfalfa, and peanuts. It is now starting a colonization plan, and the first unit of eight settlers will soon be established on its land. At Toncontín, all

the available land is devoted to experimental vegetable crops, a tree nursery, and the testing and exhibition of various types of irrigation. The Danlí station concentrates on demonstrating different methods of dry farming.

The Honduran Government, in addition to contributing its share toward the support of the Mission, assisted in its work by supplying agricultural equipment, allowing free entrance of machinery and other necessities into the country, and granting gratuitous telephone and telegraph service, as well as free transportation on State-owned railways.

The Mission worked in close cooperation with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, the Inter-American Educational Foundation, and with the Local Resources Development Service, another division of the I. I. A. A. It collaborated with this service in the construction of experimental low-cost granaries that could be easily imitated by the country's farmers, and in the distribution throughout the republic of folders giving instructions on such procedures as tanning, the making of soap, and the fashioning of tools and other equipment.

### *The Aguaytia bridge on the Transandine Highway*

The recently completed Aguaytia Bridge in Peru represents an important link in the growing network of inter-American communications. The bridge is located on the Transandine Highway, which will connect Callao on the Pacific coast with Pucallpa on the Ucayali River, an affluent of the Amazon. Having a total length of 2,310 feet, it is the largest single engineering structure on the highway, and is believed to be the largest in the Amazon Basin. The bridge carries double traffic lanes, and has a capacity of 15 tons. Its

flooring contains auto reflectors to facilitate night driving.

The preliminary topographic studies were made in 1940-41, and the clearing and excavation of the approaches were done in the early months of 1943. The actual construction, begun in March 1943, was completed in August 1945 in spite of the handicaps imposed by floods and war-time shortages of mechanical equipment and transportation facilities. The project was executed partly under the direct administration of the Ministry of Public Works and partly by private engineers under government contract. The total cost of the bridge was approximately 3,000,000 soles (\$461,000).

### *Cuba buys beans and coffee abroad*

Cuba and Mexico recently entered into an agreement for the purchase by the former from the latter of a maximum of 5,000 tons of black beans of the 1944-45 Mexican crop and 3,000 tons of white beans of the 1943-44 crop. The beans will be exempted from consular fees and customs duties.

A presidential decree also recently gave the Cuban Coffee Stabilization Institute authority to import free of duty a maximum of 150,000 quintals (1 quintal equals about 100 pounds) of coffee, to alleviate the scarcity resulting from last year's short domestic crop. The price of \$24.00 per 100 pounds fixed for the imported coffee will permit the Institute to sell it at a profit, which will be added to the Institute's fund for the development and improvement of the coffee industry, except for \$50,000 which will be used to take a coffee plantation census and \$67,000 to cover the Institute's present deficit.

Still another step toward securing ade-

quate stocks of coffee for domestic consumption was made by another presidential decree in September 1945, which provided that all coffee harvested in Cuba from May 1, 1945 to April 30, 1946, be reserved for the home market. Minimum prices to producers were fixed by the decree.

### *Paraguayan merchant marine*

Decree-Law No. 9351, approved by the President of Paraguay on June 27, 1945, and published in the *Gaceta Oficial* of Paraguay on June 30, 1945, establishing a national merchant marine, was hailed with deep satisfaction throughout the nation, particularly in industrial and commercial circles.

The capital of the new State merchant fleet was fixed at 20,000,000 guaraníes (1 guaraní equals \$0.3205 U. S.), to consist of 1,000,000 guaraníes contributed in cash by the Government; boats and other goods transferred by the Government; the net profits of the enterprise; and the proceeds of domestic or foreign bonds that may be issued by the Government to cover the deficit in authorized capital. All proceeds derived from operation of the fleet will be allocated to administrative expenses and to debt service; any net profits will be transferred to the capital account until this reaches its full amount, and thereafter the net profits will accrue to a reserve fund.

Administration of the State merchant marine is vested in a seven-member Board of Directors, four of them named directly by the President of the Republic and the other three in this fashion: one each representing industry, trade, and the agricultural and livestock industry, to be selected by the President from lists of three

names presented by each of the three business groups concerned.

Paraguay once had a successful merchant fleet, in the days of Carlos Antonio López, the country's first constitutional president, who governed from 1842 to 1862. He regarded the river as the highway that would bring Paraguay communications, commerce, and independence. With the help of European technicians, he established shipyards and built up a fleet that maintained traffic with neighboring countries and even crossed the sea to Europe. After his death, however, Paraguay's fleet was lost at the naval battle of Riachuelo on June 12, 1865, during the War of the Triple Alliance.

A few weeks before the decree-law establishing the new merchant marine was approved, the nation had a preview of things to come. A Paraguayan naval vessel, the *Mariscal Estigarribia*, converted into a freighter, made its first trip to Montevideo, loaded with freight, principally logs, from upper Paraguay; on its return trip, it carried merchandise for the Paraguayan Government. The voyage of this ship, the first merchant vessel to ply the nation's waterways under the Paraguayan flag in eighty years, was widely celebrated as a concrete step toward the revival of a merchant marine.

### *Steel production in Chile*

Chile's national steel resources, already greatly enlarged by the expansion of a Santiago foundry, are to be further increased by the building of a plant near Concepción which will turn out pig iron, heavy and light structural steel, wire, pipe, and other iron and steel products. For this new plant the Government Development Corporation has negotiated a loan of \$28,000,000 from the Export-Import Bank

of Washington, to provide materials and equipment from the United States. An additional credit of \$2,000,000 will be used to buy what is needed for providing the plant with electric power. Funds for building and operating the plant, estimated at about \$25,000,000, will be raised in Chile by the Corporation.

New facilities installed at the Santiago foundry in July 1945 have tripled the plant's output, adding 12,000 tons of bar steel a year to the 6,000 that it had previously turned out. Using Chilean deposits of iron and of the other minerals needed, Chilean foundries will now be able to produce enough steel for the country's construction requirements, thus assisting the building industry and at the same time freeing a corresponding amount of foreign exchange for other imports necessary to the country's development at this critical point in the national economy.

### *Government crop financing in Brazil*

The Bank of Brazil, through its Agricultural and Industrial Credit Section, has been authorized to help finance the production of rice, beans, corn, soy beans, peanuts, and sunflower seed during the 1945-46 crop year.

The Bank's financial aid will be in the form of subsidies, figured on the production of each crop. Prospective acreage must be reported before hand by the various States, through the Ministry of Agriculture, to the Bank and must be approved by the latter. Then monthly reports must be rendered on crop progress. Specific provisions are also made for delivery and storage of the crops in special warehouses, and for their eventual destination to national reserve stocks, export, or the fulfillment of Brazil's commitments to UNRRA.





Nº1297--Livro B.---5/9/1945

TRUE TRANSLATION--

---Republic of the United States of Brazil--State  
of S. Paulo,--4th Register of Instruments of the Capital,--  
Liguel Joute Street, 24, Capital.-- the scholar of the  
LIGUEL JOUTE, Permanent Clerk of the 4th Register-- Office of the  
Instruments and Documents of the County of the Capital of the State  
of S. Paulo,---Certifies that, in accordance with articles 1º and  
129 of the Federal Decree number 4,007 of November, 21st., 1939, the  
regulation of the society named "FUNDAÇÃO DE APOIO À PESQUISA DO  
ESTADO DE SÃO PAULO" with main offices in the Capital of the State of S. Paulo, was  
today registered in the Office of the Registrar above named, in  
book "A" 1st, of Juridical Persons.--The above is true.-- São Paulo  
August, 1st., 1945.--The authorized Clerk (signed): José de Fátima  
Correia.--(Stamped in accordance with the Law)



*J. F. Correia*  
Registrar.



Courtesy of Fernando Saboia de Medeiros

## FOUNDATION OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN SÃO PAULO

Father Roberto Saboia de Medeiros, of São Paulo, Brazil, who visited the United States year before last at the invitation of the Department of State, has recently sponsored the organization of a Foundation of Applied Sciences. Its purpose is to stimulate the study of science in order to promote industry.

Father Saboia is not only president of Acao Social, whose field of activity covers various phases of education, social medicine, and religion, but also editor of the review *Serviço Social*.

## Industrial development favored by Cuban legislation

Under authority of Presidential Decree No. 2144, approved August 7, 1945, the Cuban Government will grant certain broad tax exemptions to new industries set up for the manufacture or semimanufacture of goods not already being produced in Cuba.

The exemptions include all customs and consular fees and duties on machinery, equipment, tools, and construction mate-

rials imported because they are unavailable in Cuba, together with the tax on money exported to pay for such goods, for the first three years during which the new enterprise operates. A six-year exemption is offered on the tax on interest received on mortgage or other loans for new enterprises; this waiver is therefore expected to stimulate loans to new industry. A six-year exemption is also given on taxes on capital, stocks, and excess profits; and a ten-year exemption is authorized for customs and consular fees and duties on

imported raw materials unobtainable in Cuba and for the export tax on money sent abroad to pay for such materials. Finally, a reduction will be made during the industry's first ten years in the general profits tax, in proportion to the value of Cuban raw materials with respect to the total value of all raw materials used, provided that at least one-third is of Cuban origin.

### *Progress in education in the Dominican Republic*

The *Revista de Educación*, quarterly official organ of the Department of Education and Fine Arts of the Dominican Republic, recently published some illuminating facts regarding the nation's progress in education during the fifteen years since President Trujillo first took office in 1930.

The following comparative figures show really notable achievements. The number of schools in the country (ranging from elementary to higher educational, vocational, and fine arts schools) rose from 525 in 1930 to 2,223 in 1945 and the number of pupils and students enrolled from 50,360 to 220,299. Of the total number of schools, 2,034 are official, 53 semi-official, and 136 private. When schools supported by other Government departments and the Dominican Party are added, the figures reach 2,426 schools and 229,417 students. The annual budget of the Department of Education and Fine Arts increased from \$716,103 in 1930 to \$2,307,759 in 1945.

In 1935 the Department of Education, which previously formed part of the Department of Justice and Public Instruction, was given independent cabinet status, functioning under the name of Department of State for Education and Fine Arts. Within the new Department a number of

special divisions were established, such as the General Office of Fine Arts, the English Section, School Medical Service, and General Sports Office.

More than 90 percent of the country's 760 rural schools are now located in their own buildings, where 72,300 pupils study. In addition to these regular rural schools, early in 1945 the nation had 1,117 "emergency" schools, serving 77,870 pupils. These emergency schools were established in accordance with Law No. 543, approved September 3, 1941, which began the republic's crusade against illiteracy. This campaign was undertaken not only for children and adolescents but also for adults. Realizing that the nation's ordinary school facilities were inadequate to cope with the project, the Government authorized the establishment of up to 5,000 emergency schools, distributed throughout the rural areas in accordance with illiteracy conditions. From May 13, 1935, the date of the last census, to 1945, illiteracy decreased 12.2 percent with respect to the nation's total population and 17.9 percent with respect to the population group above nine years of age.

During the 15 years since 1930 various other educational and cultural institutions were established which provide opportunity for specialized advanced study in the Dominican Republic and widen the scope of national cultural activity. Among these institutions are the National Conservatory of Music and Speech; the National School of Fine Arts; the Central Physical Education School; the School for Public Accountants, which opened its doors in April 1945; the Dominican Academy of History; the Dominican Commission of Intellectual Cooperation; the Commission for the Preservation of National Monuments; the National Symphony Orchestra; and the National Gallery of Fine Arts. The National Museum underwent a

general reorganization and several learned societies, such as the Dominican Academy of Languages and the Dominican Athenaeum, were granted subventions by the State to help insure their stability and progress.

On August 16, 1945, the first of the twenty modern buildings that will form the University City in Ciudad Trujillo was opened. The Medical School of the University of Santo Domingo will be housed in the new edifice, which contains five class rooms, each with a capacity for 100 students; offices for the faculty; and an amphitheater, large enough to accommodate 300 students.

Other benefits of the national educational program during the past several years include the serving of school lunches and the distribution of clothing to needy school children; the establishment of school libraries; and the creation of an award, in accordance with Law No. 282 of May 29, 1940, of two scholarships. These scholarships, granted annually to the two most outstanding public primary school pupils, comprise a monthly stipend of \$60 over a period of twelve years, sufficient to cover the child's education and subsistence, from grade school through university, technical, or other specialized higher study.

### *Change in officer ranks in the Argentine Navy*

The new law governing the organization of the Argentine Navy, Decree No. 10,700 of May 30, 1945, makes some changes in officer ranks (see *Officer Ranks of the Armed Forces of the Western Hemisphere*, by Francis Millet Rogers, BULLETIN, January 1945, and *Reorganization of the Argentine Armed Forces*, BULLETIN, June 1945). The rank of Capitán de Corbeta is introduced between Capitán de Fragata and Teniente

de Navío, and Teniente de Corbeta is placed between Teniente de Fragata and Guardiamarina. The ranks of Alférez de Navío and Alférez de Fragata have been dropped. The naval ranks as they now stand are listed below:

#### NAVY

9. Almirante
  8. Vicealmirante
  7. Contraalmirante
  6. Capitán de Navío
  5. Capitán de Fragata
  4. Capitán de Corbeta
  3. Teniente de Navío
  2. Teniente de Fragata
  1. Teniente de Corbeta
- Guardiamarina

### *New normal school in Honduras*

A group of parents in Puerto Cortés, Honduras, have organized themselves into a legal entity—the Asociación de Padres de Familia de Puerto Cortés—in order to found a coeducational normal school in that city. The school, which will bear the name of Franklin D. Roosevelt, will offer liberal arts and commercial courses as well as teacher-training. Students of both sexes, regardless of financial status, will have an opportunity to extend their knowledge of the arts and sciences as a preliminary step to obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Sciences and Letters, to take specialized business courses, or to acquire certificates qualifying them to teach in city primary schools. The institution will be administered by its own board, and supported by the voluntary contributions of Association members.

### *National Library Council in Peru*

A National Library Council has been established in Peru to supervise the country's libraries, and to control Government funds appropriated for their support.

Working in cooperation with the Office of Art Education and Cultural Dissemination, the Council will promote the development of the library profession, and the growth and improvement of libraries throughout the republic. It will make a special study of ways and means to establish a chain of popular, labor union, traveling, juvenile, city, rural, or whatever type of libraries best answers the needs of the country, and will proceed to set up a nation-wide system of book depositories. Members of the Council include two representatives of the National Library, a representative of the Peruvian Library Association, delegates from various special libraries, and the chiefs of certain sections of the Ministry of Education.

### *Bolivian Indian Congress*

The National Indian Congress that convened in La Paz last May will be remembered as an important event in Bolivian history, partly because it was the first such congress to be held in the country, but still more because it won for the Indian population the abolition of old laws whose practice had kept them in a state of near-slavery, and the promulgation of new laws offering them educational opportunities and promising agrarian reforms.

For the first time representatives of Bolivia's vast Indian population were able to formulate together their demands for better social, economic, educational, and health opportunities. Over 2,000 delegates attended, from all parts of the country. The chairman was an Aymara Indian, and the Congress had three official languages, Quechua, Aymara, and Spanish.

Measures recommended by the Congress included the following:

1. The enforcement of previous legislation requiring the establishment of schools by the

owners of agricultural, mining, and industrial enterprises.

2. The study and practical regulation of Indian education by the National Government, including the provision of technically trained teachers and of agricultural education for adults.

3. The suppression of municipal tax collections at the points of entry of cities.

4. The abolition of the *pongueaje* and *mitanaje* and of all free services on the part of the native population. (The *pongueaje* and *mitanaje* were two feudal practices by which the Indians could be arbitrarily taken from their homes and obliged to work without pay on construction projects or in the mines.)

5. The preparation of an Agrarian Code.

6. The establishment of provisions governing the relations between proprietors and laborers until the Code is set up.

7. The regulation of rural police.

8. The approval by the Government of the proposal for the establishment of Agricultural cooperatives prepared by the Steering Committee of the Congress.

9. A vote of praise for the Academia Aymara for the work it is carrying on, and the stimulation of other organizations for the study of native languages.

10. The establishment of the Bolivian Indian Institute as a part of the Inter-American Indian Institute.

11. The publication in a bilingual handbook of current legal provisions for the protection of the rural worker and of the Indian in general.

12. The designation of Francisco Chipana Ramos, Chairman of the Congress, as the permanent representative of the rural workers before the national Government.

13. The organization of public health services, the establishment of pharmacies in provincial capitals and native villages, and the obliging of proprietors to protect the health of their workers.

14. An increase in irrigation activities in various parts of the country, and the expropriation of the necessary sources of water.

15. The provision of facilities for the acquisition of identification cards by Indians.

16. The prohibition of "hunting parties" by the savage tribes of the eastern part of the country, and the employment of every possible means to incorporate them into civilized life.

The response of the Bolivian Government to the recommendations of the Congress was prompt and effective. An execu-

tive decree promulgated on May 15, 1945 abolished *pongueaje* and *mitanaje*, fixed a fine of 500 bolivianos for infractions, and authorized any Indians then serving as *pongos* or *mitanis* to return immediately to their homes, demanding a certain sum for traveling expenses. The same decree goes on to state that all service must be done voluntarily and must receive due remuneration, and it provides that any public official who obliges Indians to give free services will be deprived of his office.

Another executive decree provided for the appointment of a commission to draft a new Agrarian Code, the text of which was to be presented to the Government by December 31, 1945. A third decree regulated rural labor pending establishment of the Code.

In answer to the recommendations regarding education, the President promulgated a decree providing that 50 percent of the public works tax revenues in each province will be used for Indian schools and that the Ministry of Education will send out teachers for rural schools, and requiring landowners to comply with previous legislation in providing educational opportunities for Indian workers.

### *Social security for government employees in Colombia*

Employees of the Colombian Government will begin with the new year to enjoy the benefits of the social security fund set up for them by decree of June 30, 1945, in accordance with policies laid down in the labor law of February 19, 1945. These benefits will include sickness and disability allowances, medical and hospital allowances, a lump sum payment at death or separation from service, retirement at the age of 50 after 20 years of service, and necessary burial

expenses. The insurance will be compulsory for permanent government employees not already covered by official insurance. It will be optional for temporary and contract employees, and for those permanent employees already carrying official insurance who prefer to enroll under the new system. Additional services covering families of the insured may be developed in the future, and these will be optional.

An annual appropriation amounting to 3 percent of the national revenues will be added to the premiums paid by the insured to form the fund. Premiums will be deducted from wages and salaries, and will be 2 percent in the case of laborers, 3 percent for other government employees. The latter will also be required to make an entering payment amounting to one-third of their salaries for the first month after January 1, 1945. The fund will be administered by a Board made up of the Minister of the Treasury, the Minister of Labor, Hygiene, and Social Security, the Comptroller General, an elected representative of laborers employed by the government, and an elected representative of other government employees.

### *New homes for Ecuadorean farm workers*

The Government of Ecuador recently issued regulations on housing for rural workers. Both the Constitution and the Labor Code establish the obligation of farm owners to furnish adequate, healthful, and comfortable homes for their workers, and the recent regulations were issued by the Chief Executive to enforce a wider fulfillment of that obligation.

Houses for workers with families must have not less than two bedrooms, a corridor, and a kitchen, and outside the house but adjacent to it, a proper shelter must

be provided for domestic animals. The kitchen must also have an extension or other proper storage place for household food supplies. For workers without families, group housing facilities equipped with individual rooms must be constructed.

Early compliance with these regulations was assured by requiring that farm owners or renters secure model housing plans from the Engineering Department of the Ministry of Social Welfare within 15 days after the decree became effective (July 2, 1945), and they were further required to start construction of at least two houses within two months from that date and to have all the necessary material on hand to complete them as rapidly as possible. Beginning with the year 1946, the Ministry of Social Welfare is authorized to determine the number of additional houses to be built annually on each estate, according to the number of workers employed.

The regulations also fixed penalties for failure to comply with these provisions.

### *Expanded water supply for Puerto Cortés*

A contract has been signed between the Inter-American Cooperative Public Health Service and the District Council of Puerto Cortés, Honduras, providing for the construction of a supplementary water-supply system for that city. The project, which is expected to cost approximately \$11,500, will be financed by the city and planned and executed by the Inter-American Health Service. The present water supply of this vital Caribbean port, which is derived from the Cieneguita River, has proved inadequate for the needs of the city's 7,560 people during the dry season. The Health Service plans to expand the system by bringing water from the Cacao River, located to the southwest of the

Cieneguita. It is expected that the combined supply from the two rivers will be sufficient even for 10,000 inhabitants.

### *Venezuelan regional health units*

In order to insure adequate health and welfare services in every part of the country, the Venezuelan Government is establishing Regional Health Units throughout the republic. These Units will be charged with supervising and coordinating the federal, state, and municipal health and welfare activities within their respective territories. They will make systematic studies of the needs of the cities and towns under their jurisdiction, and report to the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare any problems beyond their ability to solve. Each unit will include such services as Sanitary Engineering, Epidemiology, Veterinary, Supervision of Nurses, and a Public Health Laboratory.

### *Brazilian Industrial Apprenticeship Service*

For more than three years there has been functioning in Brazil the National Industrial Apprenticeship Service, established to increase the efficiency and productivity of the industrial worker and to raise his standard of living. For educational and administrative purposes the country has been divided into ten regions, which contribute proportionately to their population to the support of the schools. The quotas are expended in the same regions in which they are collected. The Service operates 58 schools in which 14,000 industrial apprentices, including both children and adults, are trained. During the war emergency courses were offered, and hundreds of certificates were issued to workers who completed technical apprenticeships.

The Service had plans for providing industrial training for 60,000 workers during 1945.

### *Family Dining Room No. 2 in Mexico City*

On December 1, 1945, President Ávila Camacho of Mexico attended the ceremony that marked the official opening of Family Dining Room No. 2, located in the Colonia Anáhuac, one of Mexico City's outlying industrial population centers.

The new building is a great model restaurant that can serve 750 persons at one time. Its schedule calls for the service of three meals a day to 1,500 persons, representing 400 families. Much careful planning went into its construction and its kitchen, storage, refrigeration, and other equipment is of the best.

The service the dining room gives is not charity. Every person pays for his meals according to his family income. Because of their low incomes the people in the neighborhood represent a vulnerable population group, and the benefits of the dining room service, which Mexico has already had opportunity to measure through the operation of Family Dining Room No. 1 located in another section of the city, are enormous in terms of the human beings involved.

### *Publications of the Pan American Union, July-December 1945*

Books, pamphlets, and leaflets on a variety of subjects are edited by the different offices and divisions of the Pan American Union. They offer useful material to the student and to the teacher in the Pan American field, and make available to interested groups and individuals the technical information developed through

various phases of Pan American co-operation.

The following Pan American Union publications appeared during the last six months of 1945:

#### COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY:

*Selected List of Books on Latin America*, Bibliographic Series No. 4, 7th edition, \$0.25.

*The Pan American Bookshelf*, an annotated list of the books received in the Library of the Pan American Union, monthly, \$1.00 a year. The November-December number will list the nearly 5,800 books received for the First Pan American Book Exhibit.)

#### COUNSELOR'S OFFICE:

*Final Act of the Third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture*, Congress and Conference Series No. 49—English and Spanish editions. \$0.50.

*Final Act of the Fourth Pan American Coffee Conference*, Congress and Conference Series No. 50. \$0.15.

*Transition Problems from War to Peace*. Documentary material for the Inter-American Economic and Social Council—English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.

#### DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION:

*El Cultivo del Caucho (Hevea Brasiliensis en la América Tropical)*, by R. D. Rands, in the Spanish Series on Agriculture. \$0.15.

*Alimentación del Ganado*, by Jorge de Alba, in the Spanish Series on Agriculture. \$0.15.

*Agriculture in Nicaragua*, by José M. Zelaya, in the English Series on Agriculture. \$0.15.

Publications for the Third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture—

*Handbook for the Use of the Delegates*, in English and Spanish:

Vol. I. Part I—Money and Agriculture; International Basic Agricultural Commodities

Part II—Oil-bearing Seeds and Vegetable Oils; Animal Fats and Wool

Vol. II. Part I—Foodstuffs and Raw Materials

Part II—Animal Industry; Economic Entomology; Industrial Utilization of Agricultural Products; Food and Nutrition



Vol. III. Markets and Transportation; Agricultural Migration in the Postwar Years; Agricultural Statistics

Vol. IV. International Organizations Dealing with Agriculture; Farm Cost Analysis

*General Report on the Implementation of the Resolutions of the Second Inter-American Conference on Agriculture:*

Part I—Reports of Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, and Venezuela, in English and Spanish

Part II—Reports of Cuba, Haiti, Mexico, and the United States of America, in English and Spanish

*Informe General sobre Cumplimiento de las Resoluciones de la Segunda Conferencia Interamericana de Agricultura*

Tercera Parte—Informes de los Gobiernos del Brasil y de la República Dominicana, de la Unión Panamericana y del Instituto Interamericano de Ciencias Agrícolas

*Las Conferencias Interamericanas de Agricultura—Antecedentes.*

#### DIVISION OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION:

##### *Commercial Pan America*

English edition of the June-July 1945 number—*Inter-American Concentration of Colombian Commerce, 1940-1944.* \$0.20

English edition of the August-September 1945 number—*Industrial Brazil.* \$0.20.

English edition of the October-November 1945 number—*New Economic Horizons for Peru.* \$0.20.

English edition of the December 1945 number—*Victory Minerals of Mexico, 1935-1944.* \$0.20.

#### DIVISION OF INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION:

*Children in Latin American Art* (packet of 12 illustrations, descriptions of the pictures and biographies of the artists). \$0.25.

*Art in Latin America—No. 2* (packet of 32 illustrations and biographies of the artists represented). \$0.35.

*Additional Sources of Material on Latin America.* A list. Mimeographed leaflet.

*Exhibit Material:* Division of Intellectual Cooperation, Pan American Union. A list. Mimeographed. Revised.

*Inter-American Correspondence.* Mimeographed leaflet. Revised.

*Latin American Juveniles in English Translation and Stories Based on Latin American Folklore.* A bibliography. Mimeographed leaflet.

*Spanish Language Phonograph Records.* Mimeographed leaflet. Revised.

<sup>1</sup> *Lectures Pedagogiques.* No. 1.

<sup>1</sup> *Lectures Pedagogiques.* No. 2.

<sup>1</sup> *La Santé par l'Ecole*, in the French Education Series.

<sup>1</sup> *Education pour une Société Libre*, in the French Education Series.

<sup>1</sup> *Discipline Scolaire*, in the French Education Series.

<sup>1</sup> *L'Enseignement de la Science au Service de la Vie*, in the French Education Series.

<sup>2</sup> *Disciplina Escolar*, No. 84 in the Portuguese Education Series.

<sup>2</sup> *O Ensino Funcional da Ciência*, No. 85 in the Portuguese Education Series.

<sup>3</sup> *Educación para una Sociedad Libre*, No. 126 in the Spanish Education Series.

<sup>3</sup> *Disciplina Escolar*, No. 127 in the Spanish Education Series.

<sup>3</sup> *La Enseñanza Funcional de la Ciencia*, No. 128 in the Spanish Education Series.

<sup>3</sup> *Importancia del Diagnóstico*, No. 129 in the Spanish Education Series.

<sup>3</sup> *Correo*, No. 31.

<sup>2</sup> *Correio*, No. 13.

*Panorama*, No. 26.

*The Indian, Citizen of America*, by Moisés Saenz, No. 9 in the Points of View Series.

#### DIVISION OF LABOR AND SOCIAL INFORMATION:

*El hombre y el trabajo en América.* \$0.25.

*Democracia Industrial, La Junta Nacional de Relaciones del Trabajo*, by Arturo Meneses Pallares. \$0.25.

*Cooperativas de Crédito en los Estados Unidos*, by Robert C. Jones. \$0.25.

*Cooperativas de Crédito—Estatutos de la Cooperativa Federal de Crédito de los Estados Unidos.* \$0.25.

*Aprenda el Inglés.*

*Mexican War Workers in the United States*, by Robert C. Jones. \$0.25.

*Employment of United States Citizens in Latin America.* \$0.10.

*Resoluciones, Acuerdos, Recomendaciones y Declaraciones de Conferencias Internacionales Americanas sobre Problemas Sociales.* \$0.10.

<sup>1</sup> *For distribution in Haiti only.*

<sup>2</sup> *For distribution in Brazil only.*

<sup>3</sup> *For distribution in Spanish American countries only.*

## DIVISION OF SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:

## New Booklets—

## Nations:

*Colombia.* \$0.05.

## Cities:

*Asunción.* \$0.05.

*Caracas.* \$0.05.

*Tegucigalpa.* \$0.05

## Revised editions:

## Nations:

*Argentina.* \$0.05.

*Brazil.* \$0.05

*Mexico.* \$0.05

## Reprints, with revised figures:

## Nations:

*Chile.* \$0.05.

*Dominican Republic.* \$0.05.

*Paraguay.* \$0.05.

*Venezuela.* \$0.05.

## EDITORIAL DIVISION:

BULLETIN of the Pan American Union—English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions, July through December 1945. These editions are not wholly parallel.

## JURIDICAL DIVISION:

*Status of the Pan American Treaties and Conventions*, with text in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French. Revised to July 1, 1945.

*The Inter-American System and the United Nations Organization*, by Manuel S. Canyes, in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

*Report on the International Juridical Status of Individuals as "War Criminals."* Prepared by the Inter-American Juridical Committee in accordance with Resolution VI of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace held at Mexico City, February 21 to March 8, 1945—Spanish, Portuguese, and English editions.

*Treaties and Conventions signed at the Third International Conference of American States, Rio de Janeiro, July 23 to August 27, 1906.* Law and Treaty Series No. 18, Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French editions.

## TRAVEL DIVISION:

*Yucatan, Land of the Mayas.* \$0.05.

## Special memorandum:

*Climate in Mexico.*

*We see by the papers that—*

• Guatemala's Foreign Office has notified Great Britain of its wish to resume negotia-

tions on the subject of the territory variously known as Belize or British Honduras, and now administered by Great Britain. Guatemala's claims were not pressed during the war, but have never been abandoned; they are based on the agreement of 1859, which awarded the contested territory to Great Britain in return for certain promises. Those promises, Guatemala holds, have never been fulfilled, and the land should therefore revert to Guatemala.

• Great Britain has offered to submit the dispute to the new World Court when it is organized. In 1937 Guatemala proposed arbitration of the dispute by the President of the United States; Great Britain accepted arbitration, but wished to have the Permanent Court of International justice act as arbiter. Guatemala refused to accept the change.

• Alfonso Reyes, a distinguished Mexican writer and diplomat, had the honor of being the first to receive Mexico's annual National Arts and Sciences Award. His prize-winning work was a book entitled *La Crítica en la Edad Ateniense* (Criticism in the Athenian Age). The award, established in 1944 to be given in successive years to authors of outstanding works in the fields of literature, art, music, and historical research, carries with it a cash prize of 20,000 pesos, a diploma, and ten percent of the edition of the prize-winning work.

• Representatives of the Bolivian Development Corporation have signed a contract with an engineering firm in the United States for the construction of the 300-mile mountain highway linking Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, a route of capital importance to the economic future of the country. This enterprise, which will be directed by technicians and engineers from the United States, will employ some

6,000 Bolivian workmen. It is estimated that construction will take more than 3 years and cost about \$10,000,000.

- The new airport at Iquitos, *Peru*, built by the Rubber Development Corporation, was opened for use some months ago. Construction was begun on it in September 1943, but met with many obstacles. The heavy rainfalls (some 100 inches a year) were especially destructive, and canvas roofs had to be put up so that paving could be carried on in the rainy season. The airport has a paved landing strip 2,187 yards by 55 yards, adequate for the largest four-motored planes now in use. While it was built principally to serve as focal point for the transportation of rubber and other agricultural products from the western Amazon region, the Iquitos Airport will also be one of the main stops on the projected Panagra-Panair transcontinental route from Lima to Belém.

- The Director General of Public Health in *Cuba* recently announced the establishment of a Salmonella Center, annexed to the Finlay Institute, which will devote itself to the study of gastroenteritis, particularly in children, and the preparation of serums for use in health centers throughout the Republic. Bacteria of the Salmonella type are responsible in large part for infant mortality in Cuba and the specialized work of the new Center is expected to help effectively in reducing the death rate from such infection.

- Twelve new instruction centers were recently added to the 550 already scattered throughout *Ecuador* to help carry forward the nation's campaign against illiteracy.

- A School of Sciences, where the theory and practice of mathematics and the physical and biological sciences will be taught, was added to the University of

*Haiti* in August 1945. The National School of Agriculture and the School of Applied Sciences were made part of the University by being designated as Affiliated Schools, while the Medical School was designated as an Affiliated Member of the University. As such they will be subject to all the rules and regulations governing the University proper.

- Civil aviation in *Mexico* celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on September 20, 1945, with appropriate ceremonies at the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico City, organized by the Civil Aeronautics Office of the Department of Communications and Public Works. The first step in civil aviation in Mexico took place in 1920, when a private concern sought permission to establish an air line between Tampico and Tuxpan. At present thirty-five civil air lines operate in the country.

- The Credit Bank of *Ecuador* was recently officially authorized to increase its working capital from 3 million to 5 million sucres. (The exchange rate on the sucre is \$0.0726 U. S.) The new stock will be issued in 20,000 shares of 100 sucres each.

- The Government of *Uruguay* allocated the sum of 300,000 pesos (1 peso equals \$0.5263 U. S.) as a subsidy for the year beginning August 24, 1945, to keep down the retail cost of meat in towns in the interior of the Republic. The money will be distributed to municipal governments in proportion to population. The principal aim of the subsidy is to provide reasonably priced meat for the poorer classes.

- A presidential decree issued in *Uruguay* last year provides a series of strict regulations for industries and shops that use lead, designed to cut down the risk of the workers' contracting lead poisoning. Places of business are given six months to comply with the various provisions for

protection of the workers and penalties are fixed for non-compliance.

- Two new food markets, combining the best features of modern architecture and sanitary facilities, are now under construction in Ciudad Trujillo, *Dominican Republic*.

- New industries continue to appear in *Mexico*. Recently the Government granted the five-year tax exemption concessions allowed by law to these new enterprises: a plant in Tampico that will dehydrate potatoes, sweet potatoes, bananas, pineapples, papayas, eggs, carrots, and tomatoes; and two plants in Monterrey, one of which will manufacture electric refrigerators and the other various types of insulating material. In Mexico City two other new concerns were also started, one for the manufacture, import, and export of medicines and the other for the extraction of oil from corn.

- A group from the *Argentine* National Committee on Apprenticeship and Occupational Guidance went to São Paulo, *Brazil*, a few months ago to study the apprenticeship system in effect in that country. (See page 111.)

- In the first half of 1945, *Brazil* was the leading supplier of the *Argentine* market, shipping 33.9 percent of the total imports, to the value of 158,000,000 pesos. The chief items were: textiles, 41,000,000 pesos; pine lumber, 30,000,000 pesos; and coffee, 12,000,000 pesos. Among the countries receiving Argentine exports, Brazil was third with 13.3 percent, following Great Britain and the United States. The total of Argentine exports to Brazil in the first six months of 1945 was 131,000,000 pesos, the leading place being taken by wheat, 85,000,000 pesos, and flour, 6,000,000 pesos. Apples, pears, and butter were also shipped to Brazil in appreciable amounts.

- The First South American Petroleum Congress, to be held under the auspices of the South American Petroleum Institute, is scheduled for January 1947, at Lima, *Peru*.

- In appreciation of the results accomplished by the women's contribution toward maintaining the morale of permanent and transient troops in the Panama Canal Zone, a series of three-day excursions to Medellín, Colombia, for women of the Canal Zone and the Republic of *Panama* who assisted in the entertainment of troops on the Isthmus were made possible by Lt. Gen. George H. Brett, commanding general of the Caribbean Defense Command and the Panama Canal Department. Leaving by Army plane, approximately 400 women, selected from five organizations, enjoyed sight-seeing and shopping tours and parties arranged by the city officials of Medellín.

- The use by the United States Army of the Paitilla National Airport, *Panama*, as a maneuver area was discontinued and the airport returned to the complete control of the Republic of Panama on October 1, 1945. Improvements built by the Army will not be removed in compliance with the verbal agreement at the time the airport was proffered for mutual defense under the impact of war on December 8, 1941.

- According to the Director General of Primary Education in *Honduras*, seventy-three more elementary schools are in operation this school year than in 1944-45, and a record number of 59,968 children are enrolled.

- The new Marshal Santa Cruz Library in La Paz, *Bolivia*, is now open to the public. It has a collection of 40,000 volumes.

- *Costa Rica's* industrial hygiene law, passed last year, sets up standards for

construction, lighting, ventilation, and sanitation of buildings used for manufacturing; it also requires that all industrial establishments be classified as inoffensive, noxious, or dangerous, and restricts their location according to class.

- A day nursery for children of women selling their wares in the city markets was opened in *Guatemala* several months ago.

- Saturday half-holidays for commercial houses recently went into effect in Rio de Janeiro. Saturday half-holidays have long been customary in *Brazilian* offices but the change is a revolutionary one for stores.

- The *Peruvian* Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, is beginning a campaign to foster agricultural cooperatives among the Indians living on Government-owned property. These cooperatives, by increasing the productivity of the land, are expected to make it possible for their members to become economically independent.

- The Simón Barceló Prize, offered annually in *Venezuela* by the widow of Simon Barceló for the best novel of the year, was awarded in 1945 to Julian Padrón for his *Clamor Campesino*. The prize-winning novel is a study of the problems of rural laborers in the eastern part of Venezuela. The author has written numerous short stories and plays as well as novels, and contributes periodically to *El Universal* of Caracas.

- The Government of *Ecuador* has offered three scholarships in the Eloy Alfaro Military College in Quito to Panamanian students.

- The *United States* and *Panama* have signed an agreement providing for survey of the proposed section of the Pan American

Highway between Río Hato and the Costa Rican border. Under the terms of the agreement, the United States will contribute two thirds of the cost of construction, provided the highway is surfaced with bituminous asphalt. If Panama decides that it should be built of concrete, this might be undertaken when Panama's cement plant is in operation.

- Clearing of the site for a low-cost housing project for workers' families in *Panama* has been started. It is in the vicinity of the trans-Isthmian highway near Pueblo Nuevo.

- Recent official decrees in *Brazil* provided for the organization of a National School of Architecture in the University of Brazil and of a National School of the Theater.

- *Ecuador's* Social Security Bureau is now equipped to give X-ray examinations and radiotherapy services. Modern equipment has been installed and a staff of technicians employed to make the service as complete and effective as possible. It is expected to be of great benefit in the diagnosis of tuberculosis and in treatment for cancer.

- Minimum salaries and wages for employees of radio broadcasting stations and for assistants and workers in private medical laboratories and clinics have been officially fixed by the Government of *Brazil*.

- A modern plant for purifying the drinking water that goes to *Mexico City* from Xochimilco has been installed at Xotepingo in the Federal District.

- The *Cuban* Government recently allocated funds for the organization and development in the Province of Camagüey of the nation's first collective farm. The funds will cover the acquisition of ma-

chinery, seeds, livestock, fuel, and other necessary items to put the farm on an operating basis.

- Social welfare in the *Dominican Republic* will benefit from the funds accruing from a new special tax of 3 cents a gallon on gasoline, kerosene, and certain types of fuel oil and a 2-cent tax on certain other types of fuel oil. The entire proceeds of these taxes will be allocated to public assistance.

- *Brazil* supplied the bulk of the 400,000 pounds of menthol consumed in the United States in 1944. The State of São Paulo produces most of Brazil's menthol. Early in 1944 reports showed that some 15,000 acres in that State were planted to mint, approximately seven times the preceding year's acreage, and estimates of the 1945 production indicated a still further increase.

- Recent statistics released by the *Argentine* government reflect the constant progress of the country's communications services. There are now approximately 27,000 miles of railroads and 259,000 miles of roads. During 1944, 464,000 vehicles were operated in the country, and the Merchant Fleet now consists of 27 ships with a capacity of 135,000 tons. Over 500,000 telephones have been installed by the 43 telephone companies, and in 1944 nearly 14,000,000 telegrams were carried by 1,207 telegraph offices. The postal service during that year handled 1,152,000,000 letters, and over 10,000,000 parcels.

- In order to increase the practical value of its services, the National University of *El Salvador* is establishing evening courses for the general public. The subjects offered will include medicine and hygiene, dentistry, and law. The courses, which will have a maximum duration of two years, will be taught by university students and professional men specializing in the various fields.

- The principal resolution passed by the Central American-Mexican Coffee Convention held recently in *San Salvador* was that providing for the establishment by the countries represented at the Convention (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua) of a Central American-Mexican Coffee Federation. The Federation, which will have its seat at San Salvador, will study and attempt to solve the coffee problems of the member countries and cooperate with the work of the Pan American Coffee Bureau and the Inter-American Coffee Board. Other countries, suited for membership by their geographic location and the grade of coffee they produce, may enter the Federation upon the unanimous consent of the member nations.

- On July 21, 1945 the Jorge Chávez Center of Aeronautical Studies was inaugurated in Lima, *Peru*. The Center includes schools for commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, and paratroopers. The thirteen structures that have been completed include the administration and supply buildings, quarters for officers, troops, and guards, dining rooms, and two modern hangars. Several buildings of the School for Non-Commissioned Officers are in the process of construction, and the radio, transportation, and auxiliary services buildings remain to be built.

### *Marble vase from the Ulúa river, Honduras*

The BULLETIN deeply regrets that through a typographical error the name of the above-mentioned river was misspelled in the legend on page 36 of the January 1946 number under the photograph of this vase, owned by the University Museum, Philadelphia.

# NECROLOGY

OSCAR R. BENAVIDES.—Eminent Peruvian military leader, statesman, and diplomat, Marshal of the Nation, and ex-President of the Republic. Born in Lima, March 18, 1876. From 1890 to 1894 he attended the National Military School. From 1904 to 1906 he attended the War College, where he graduated at the head of his class with the rank of major. Because of his brilliant record in the War College, Benavides was sent to France for further military studies. There he served in various companies. In 1909 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and did important work as a member of the Peruvian Armament Commission in Germany and Austria.

Benavides returned to Peru in 1911. After recuperating in Europe from an illness contracted in the Caquetá campaign, Benavides was named Commander of the Third Military Region, and from this post was raised in November 1913 to Chief of Staff of the Peruvian Army. The latter appointment was canceled by President Billinghurst early in 1914 when Benavides refused his support to what he felt was an attack on the Constitution. Benavides assumed the leadership of the army in defense of the Constitution, and after a successful *coup d'état* served as provisional president until the election of Dr. José Pardo in 1915. At the time of the overthrow of Billinghurst, Congress promoted Benavides to Brigadier General.

In 1916 he was sent to France as Chief of the Military Mission. From 1917 to 1920 he was Peruvian Minister to Italy. Benavides returned to Peru in 1921, only to be sent into exile two months later by the Leguía Government. He was not to serve Peru again in a public capacity until 1931, when he was named Minister

to Spain by the Sánchez Cerro Government. The following year he went as Minister to Great Britain.

While he was in England serious boundary differences arose between Peru and Colombia which made war seem imminent. Taking leave of absence, he returned to Peru to offer his services. He was promoted to General and named Commander-in-Chief of National Defense. Upon the assassination of President Sánchez Cerro on April 30, 1933, Congress elected Benavides President. Fighting had already broken out along the disputed boundary. With rare and true statesmanship President Benavides sought to put a stop to the conflict before both countries were plunged into a prolonged and destructive war. He got in touch with his old friend Dr. Alfonso López, President-elect of Colombia, whom he had known as a fellow diplomat in Europe. López flew to Lima, and through a series of friendly conversations the two statesmen came to an agreement on the settlement of the conflict. The Leticia Corridor, which Peru had occupied, was placed under the administration of the League of Nations until an amicable settlement was effected.

In internal affairs, President Benavides did a great service to the country with the successful execution of the three-year highway program, which had as its objective the reconstruction or improvement of 3,600 miles of old roads and the construction of 1,800 miles of new roads. He continued the irrigation plan and the port construction program initiated by the Leguía Government. He was very proud of the social legislation promulgated by his government. The Compulsory Social Insurance Law, based in large part on

the Conventions of the International Labor Bureau of 1926 and 1933, was passed in 1936.

After the election and inauguration of Dr. Prado as President in 1939, Benavides, whom Congress had made a Marshal of the Nation, served as Ambassador to Spain and later to Argentina. He returned to Peru just before his death at La Perla on July 2, 1945.

HONORIO PUEYRREDÓN.—Argentine lawyer, professor, and statesman. Born in 1876, he obtained his advanced education at the University of Buenos Aires, receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws in 1896. From 1893 to 1916 he was a professor in the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences of that University. He began early to take an interest in national affairs, and

served his country in many important posts at home and abroad. In 1911 he was the Argentine delegate to the Conference on Maritime Law held at Venice. Under President Hipólito Irigoyen, he served as Minister of Agriculture, 1916–19, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, 1918–19, and Minister of Foreign Affairs during the critical years 1919–1922. He was Chairman of the Argentine Delegation to the First Assembly of the League of Nations in 1920, and was elected a vice-president of this Assembly. During the years 1923–28, he was Argentine Ambassador to the United States. He was elected Governor of the Province of Buenos Aires in 1931, but the election was annulled by the Provisional Government of Uriburu. Died in Buenos Aires at the age of 69 on September 23, 1945.



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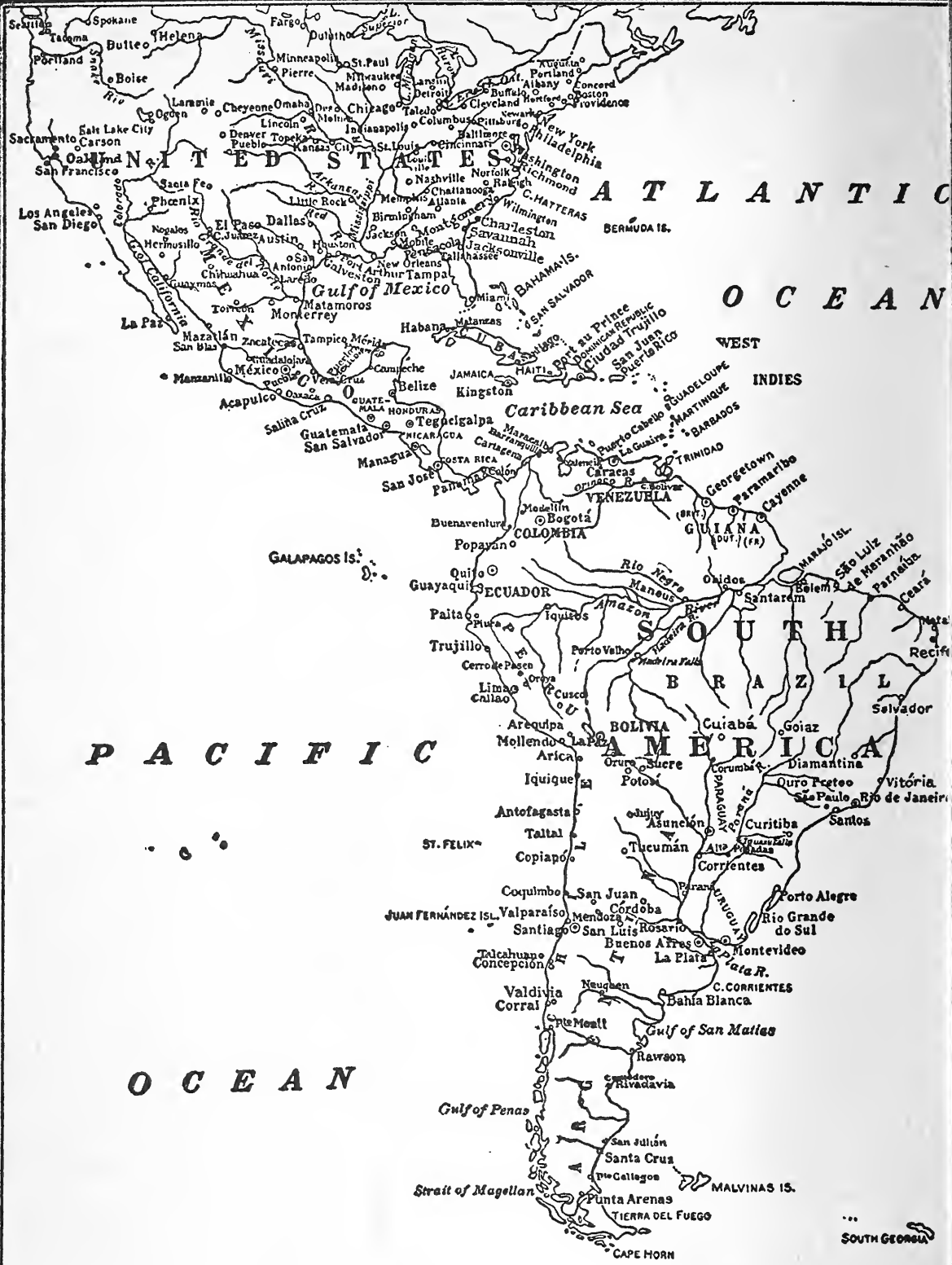
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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 55 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; and the Eighth, at Lima in 1938. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions from all the countries, in amounts proportional

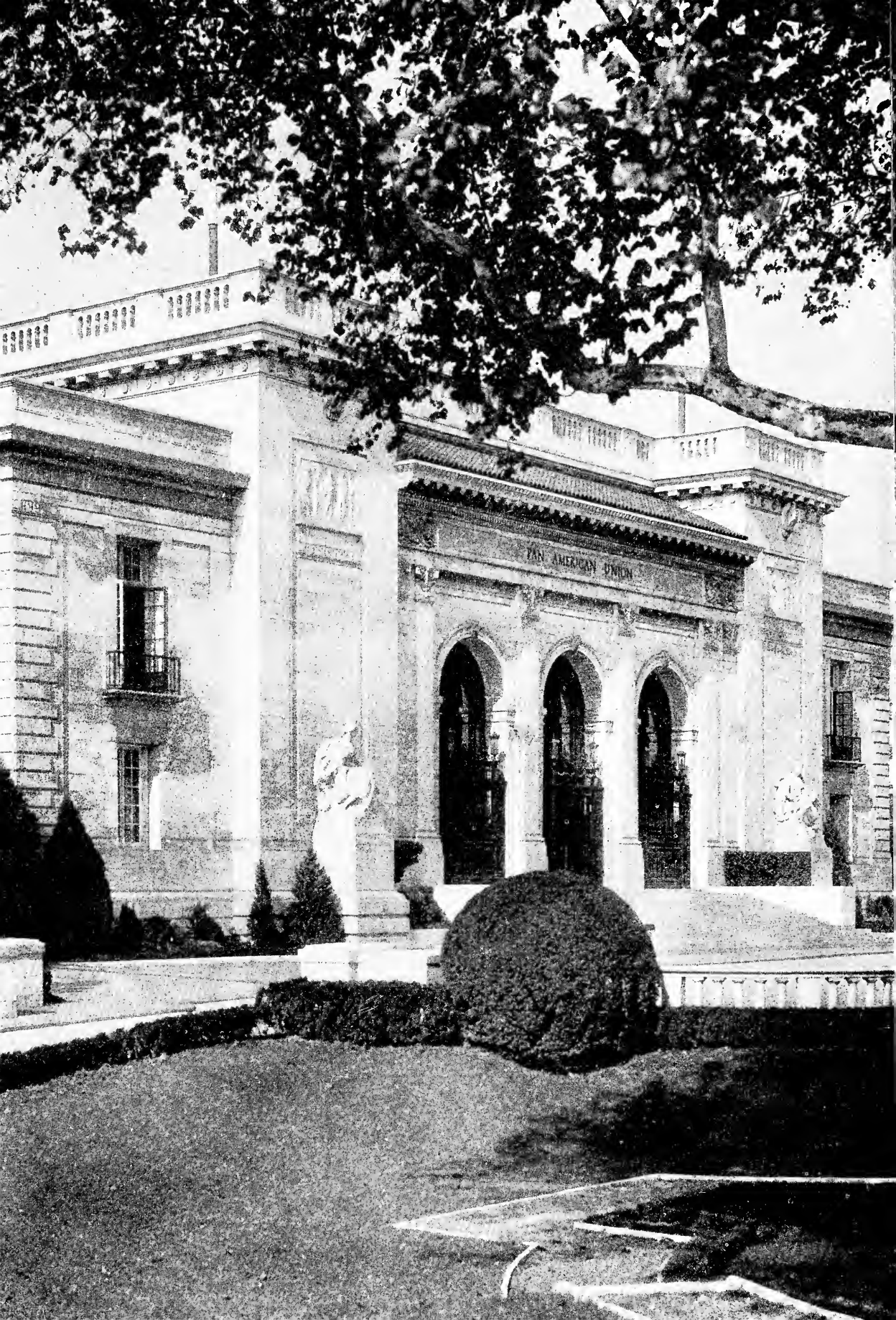
to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 135,000 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



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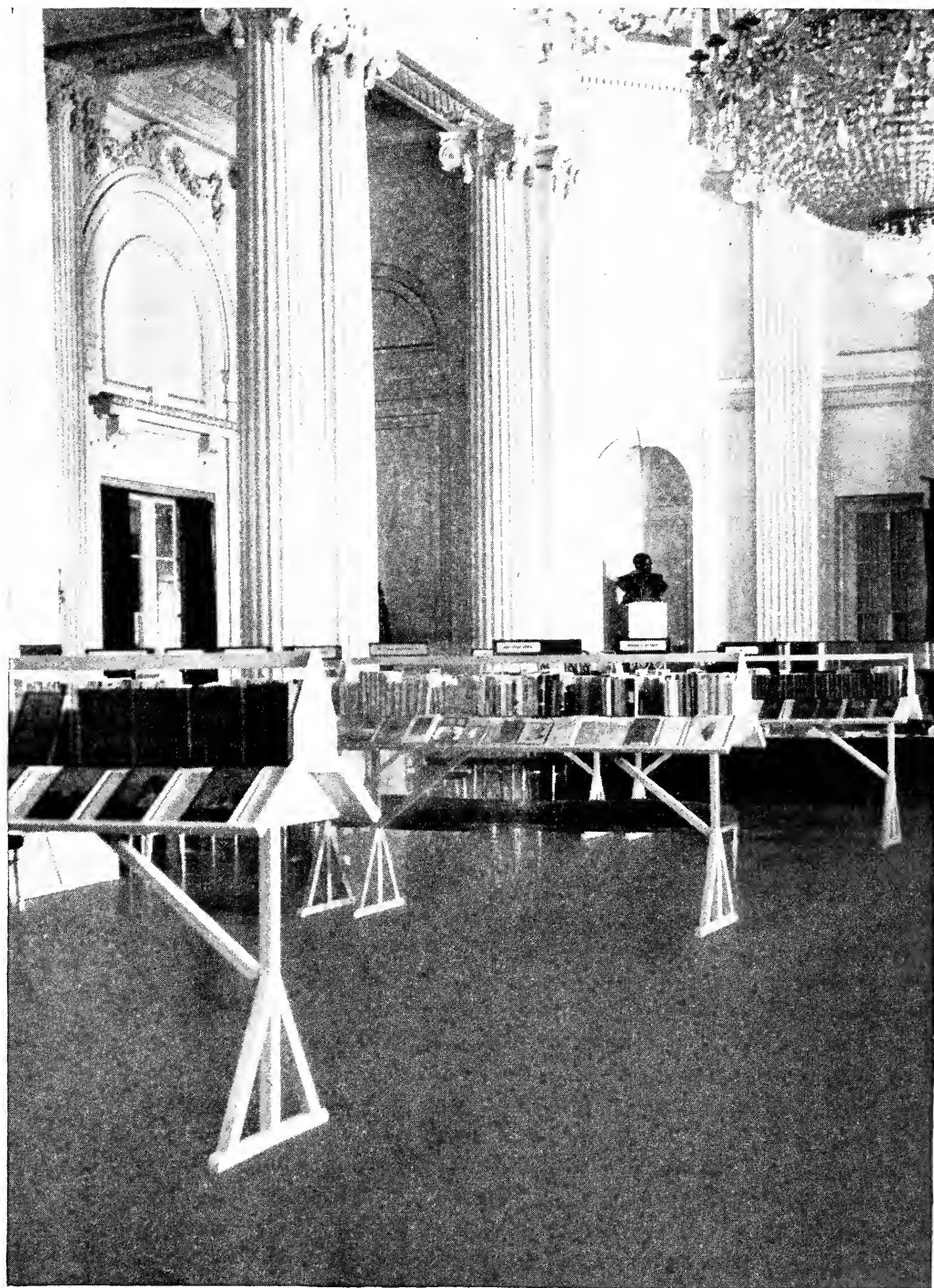
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# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 3



MARCH 1946

## Pan American Day—April 14, 1946

L. S. ROWE

*Director General, Pan American Union*

THIS year's celebration of Pan American Day is especially significant for two reasons: the notable expansion of Pan American activities during the past twelve months, and the articulation of the Pan American system with the United Nations Organization.

Pan American Day in 1946 finds the Pan American Union exercising a wider range of functions than ever before. Of these, probably the most notable was the organization within the Union of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, provided for at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace held at Mexico City in February 1945. The Council, which was formally installed in November 1945, will deal with the many economic and social problems confronting the American Republics

in the postwar period. Composed of one representative from each of the twenty-one republics, it is in a position to play an important role in the economic and social development of the nations of this continent.

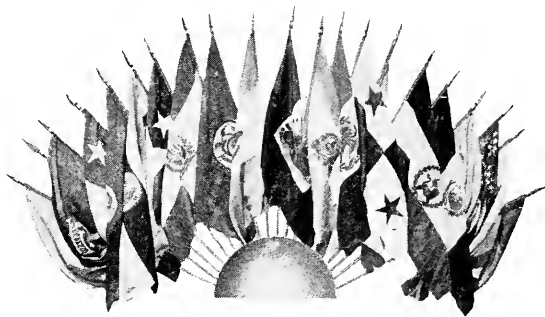
The unity among the American Republics, which found its latest expression at the Mexico City Conference, was a factor of no little consequence at San Francisco a few weeks afterwards, when the Charter of the World Organization was drafted. The Charter not only specifically recognizes the existence of regional organizations, but also, in recognition of their value, assigns to them definite functions in the maintenance of peace and in the fostering of closer ties, both cultural and economic.

Preparations are now under way for two

inter-American conferences of profound significance. One of these, the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security, to be held at Rio de Janeiro, is expected to formulate a treaty under which the Governments of this Continent agree to settle all differences by peaceful means. This will establish a unified policy in resisting aggression whether from within or from without the American Continent. The second of these meetings will be the Ninth International Conference of American States, which will assemble at Bogotá in December. To this conference will be en-

trusted the formulation of a convention consolidating the entire inter-American system.

The duties assigned to these international assemblies reflect the spirit of continental cooperation that has become so evident among the nations of this hemisphere. In this difficult postwar period, when so many international differences have already begun to manifest themselves, the American Republics are setting an example of cooperative action, which not only safeguards their security, but will continue to have far-reaching influence in world affairs.



# Keeping the Peace in America

GEORGE A. FINCH

*Director, Division of International Law, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*

THE DECISION to locate the seat of the United Nations in the United States may be looked upon as in the nature of the working of a law of political gravitation in humanity's ceaseless but as yet unsuccessful struggle for peace on earth. To paraphrase John Quincy Adams, westward the star of peace takes its way.

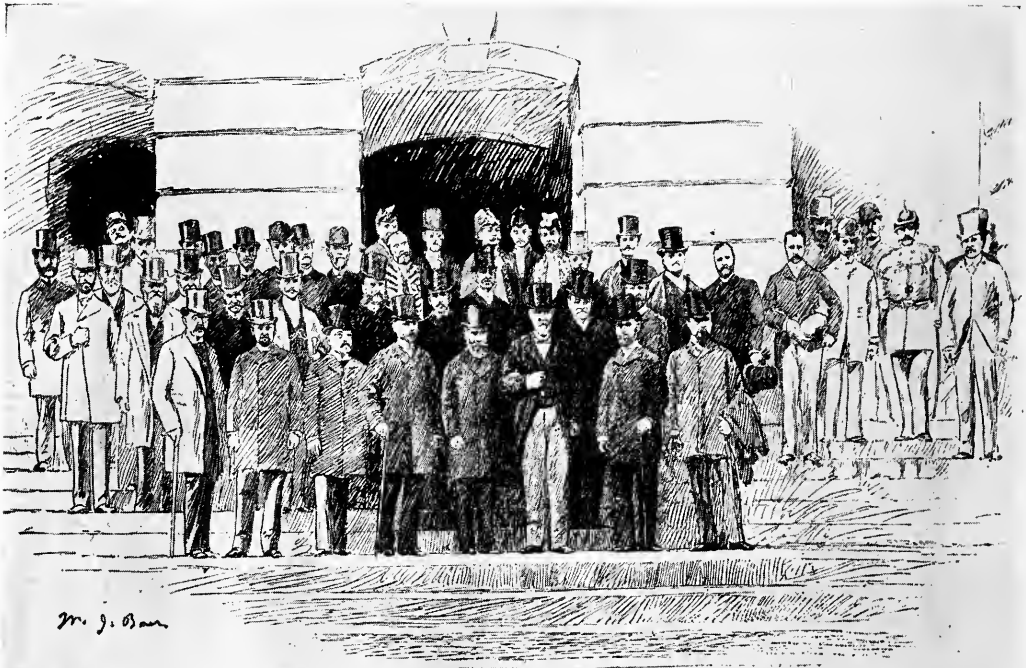
In this country, a little more than a century and a half ago, the colonial descendants of European forebears achieved their independence. Although of several different languages, religions, laws, and cultures, they formed a union of states which has saved them and their posterity from the horrors and devastation of recurring wars among themselves. Prolonged peace has given them the opportunity to devote their thoughts and energies to the development of the bountiful natural resources bestowed upon them, to increase their prosperity, and to advance in spiritual and intellectual life. The newly freed colonists, resolving to live in good neighborly and cooperative relations with each other, abolished their separate armies, reduced the importance of political boundaries by eliminating customs barriers among themselves, and established a Supreme Court with compulsory jurisdiction of all controversies between members of the Union regardless of the nature of the dispute.

*The Pan American Union celebrated on September 1, 1945, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. L. S. Rowe as Director General. During these years the American republics have together made great progress, spiritual and material. In honor of the Director General, the BULLETIN is publishing a series of papers on inter-American relations, 1920-1945, of which this is the sixth.*

The success of the North American Union inspired the other peoples of the Western Hemisphere to similar efforts. When they had achieved their independence, President Monroe declared the intention of the United States to make common cause with them against any European attempt to intervene for the purpose of oppressing them. The doctrine proclaimed by Monroe thus served to safeguard not only the United States but all the free nations of America from the threat of war from across the seas.

The great liberator of South America, Simón Bolívar, sought a counterpart of the Monroe Doctrine by planning a federation of the Spanish-speaking peoples in the New World to defend their liberty and secure the enjoyment of unalterable peace. He hoped that such a union might later be expanded into a league of all nations. A century later, President Woodrow Wilson conceived the same idea and proposed the League of Nations as an extension of the principles of the Monroe Doctrine to the entire world.

In the meantime the successors of Washington, Monroe, and Bolívar did not forget their great heritage. After sporadic attempts during the earlier years of the nineteenth century, an intercontinental American union was successfully launched in 1889 when the First International Conference of American States was held at Washington upon the invitation of Secretary of State James G. Blaine, pursuant to an act of the Congress of the United States of the preceding year.



GROUP OF DELEGATES TO THE CONGRESS ON THE STEPS OF THE WALLACH MANSION.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN STATES.—FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY BELL, WASHINGTON.

From Harper's Weekly

# DELEGATES TO THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STATES, WASHINGTON, 1889-90

The bureau that evolved into the Pan American Union was created by this conference.

As is almost universally the case with all international conferences, the achievements of the Conference of 1889 fell short of the aspirations of those who called it. Its one definite accomplishment was the formation of the "International Union of the American Republics," whose only function, however, was the maintenance of a bureau to collect and supply commercial information to the members of the Union; but subsequent conferences have continued and expanded the work of the first.

The original Commercial Bureau has grown into a great international American secretariat now officially designated as the Pan American Union, with special administrative divisions of foreign trade,

statistics, economics, intellectual coöperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural coöperation, travel, and labor and social information, all housed in a magnificent marble building in Washington donated by Andrew Carnegie, which he called "The American Temple of Peace." Around this international secretariat has been developed, not by premeditated design but gradually and as the consequence of experience, an inter-American system of coöperation for peace and good neighborliness which has outlasted any similar organization elsewhere.

The principal organ of the Inter-American System is the International American Conference which serves the

purposes of an international legislative body *ad referendum*. The conferences—now eight in all—have been held at intervals in different American capitals. They are conducted on the principle of the legal equality of all the members and are democratic in the truest sense. Each nation, large or small, may send as many delegates as it chooses, but has only one vote. Questions of precedence do not arise as all such matters are decided by lot. The program may cover the entire field of international relationships, political, legal, economic, social, cultural. The conference may adopt resolutions, make declarations and recommendations, and sign conventions, but no member is bound unless it approves or ratifies the respective proposals. Sanctions, whether forcible, economic, or otherwise, are never considered. An American nation which dissents has time to think matters over. In the end, it usually goes along with its neighbors.

Machinery for the peaceful settlement of international disputes in the Americas has kept pace with and in some instances gone beyond the developments of the world at large. At the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Inter-American Conferences held at Santiago de Chile in 1923, Habana in 1928, Montevideo in 1933, and Lima in 1938, and at two special conferences held at Washington in 1928 and Buenos Aires in 1936, instruments were signed, and have been generally ratified, providing for the settlement of controversies between the American States through commissions of inquiry and conciliation, good offices, mediation, and arbitration. All of the American Republics joined the League of Nations or signed the Pact of Paris renouncing war as an instrument of national policy or the Anti-War Pact signed at Rio de Janeiro for the same purpose.

Experience has unfortunately demonstrated, however, that international peace cannot be preserved by the adoption of resolutions, by the conclusion of international conventions, or by the signature of pacts. The Hague Peace Conferences, held at the turn of the century, were, in the words of the Czar of Russia who called them, “a happy presage to converge into a single powerful force the efforts of all states which sincerely wish the great conception of universal peace to triumph over the elements of disturbance and discord.” Those conferences adopted a general convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes and established a Permanent Court of Arbitration; nevertheless, the first World War started in 1914 at the very time it had been planned to hold a third peace conference at The Hague. At the conclusion of peace, the League of Nations came into being to end all future wars but it was also wrecked by the second World War just ended. Both wars could have been avoided by the use of the peace machinery then in force among the belligerents. No means existed, however, to restrain the law breaker who chose to dishonor his solemn signature on the international agreements and ignore the great principle upon which all international law and peace must be founded—*pacta sunt servanda*.

When the clouds of war began again to gather ominously over Europe in 1936, the American States were faced with the problem not of preserving peace within their own borders but of keeping the menace of non-American war from their shores. To meet this serious situation, an extraordinary Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace was held at Buenos Aires in December 1936. This conference adopted a convention which provides that in the event the peace of the American Republics is menaced, their governments



#### THE THIRD MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT RIO

This meeting, held in 1942 just after the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, reaffirmed inter-American solidarity.

shall consult together to determine upon action to preserve the peace of the American Continents. In accordance with the recognized principles of inter-American solidarity, it was further declared that each act susceptible of disturbing the peace of the Americas affects each and every one of the American nations and justifies the initiation of the procedure of consultation prescribed in the convention. This procedure was reaffirmed and strengthened by a declaration of the Eighth International Conference of American States held at Lima in December 1938.

Three meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs have been held for consultation in accordance with the foregoing provisions, the first at Panama in September 1939, which considered the position of the Amer-

ican States as neutrals at the outbreak of the war in Europe. The second was held at Habana in 1940 for the purpose of dealing with threats to the peace and safety of the Americas growing out of the European war. Opportunity was taken again to improve the procedure of consultation. The Third Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs was held at Rio de Janeiro in January and February 1942, following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Inter-American solidarity was reaffirmed by declaring that an act of aggression against any American State must be considered an act of aggression against all of them. During the world war just ended, the American States acted in conformity with that declaration.

The American Republics in their quest

for a continental peace have thus fashioned a system which embodies institutions that are rudimentary to successful civil society everywhere. The first condition of human safety, welfare, and progress is the security of the individual from the violence of his fellowman. In monarchies, this condition is referred to as keeping the king's peace and it is a crime to break it, punishable as such by the whole community. In democratic governments, we call it keeping the public peace. In the community of nations it should be a crime, punishable as such, to break the international peace. In our national way of life, no person is allowed to take the law into his own hands, for personal self-help is a relic of centuries gone by; yet, notwithstanding the tremendous progress that has been made in the development of peaceful intercourse and relations between peoples and nations, the system of self-help by so-called sovereign states has persisted uncontrolled, and any recalcitrant member of the international community which has the power at any given time has been allowed to break the peace and run amok as a robber and a killer

with only his victim to defend himself.

Starting with the congress called by Bolívar at Panama in 1826 and continuing for a century, the American States have sought to outlaw conquest by refusing to recognize the validity of titles acquired by such means. At the Sixth International Conference held at Habana in 1928, the American States went the whole way of legal denunciation by declaring that "war of aggression constitutes an international crime against the human species." In other words, the international aggressor is assimilated to a pirate.

Following the publication of the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals for the formation of a United Nations Organization to prevent and suppress aggression and the calling of a conference to formulate a definite charter, an Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace was held at Mexico City in February and March of 1945. It considered, among other questions, the attitude of the American Republics at the approaching San Francisco Conference. The most significant accomplishment of the Mexico City meeting

PRESIDENT ÁVILA  
CAMACHO OF MEXICO

He delivered the opening address at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace last year.



was the Act of Chapultepec, which reiterated "that every attack of a State against the integrity or the inviolability of the territory, or against the sovereignty or political independence of an American State shall be considered as an act of aggression against the other States which sign this act."

In order to leave no doubt as to what is meant by this "international crime against the human species," the Act of Chapultepec defines aggression as "invasion by armed forces of one state into the territory of another, trespassing boundaries established by treaty and demarcated in accordance therewith." Should any such cases occur or threaten, consultation between the American States will take place in accordance with the procedure already agreed upon. In this respect, the Act of Chapultepec is far in advance of and a great improvement upon the charter of the United Nations. Although a primary purpose of that organization is to suppress aggression, the San Francisco Conference refused to define what was meant by the term but left each act to be determined by the Security Council after the crime has been committed or is seriously threatened. In such decisions each of the five permanent members of the Council has a right of veto which may prevent any determination of aggression by the United Nations. The arguments presented against a definition of aggression were specious at the time of the San Francisco Conference; they now are more

untenable since the dramatic development of the atomic bomb and other mechanical weapons of instantaneous mass destruction.

Adopted as a war measure, the Act of Chapultepec envisages the incorporation of its provisions in a permanent treaty following the establishment of peace.

With its legislative needs provided for in a permanent Inter-American Conference meeting at regular intervals, its administrative duties performed by the Pan American Union acting as a permanent international secretariat, and its executive functions under the direction of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting when necessary for consultation and joint action, the peace of the Americas has been inspired by the ideals and built upon the wisdom of the founding fathers who left the war-torn Old World to seek their peace in the New. Successful experience with their national institutions led them to experiment with an inter-American system based upon analogous principles of respect for law, preservation of peace, and international cooperation which has withstood the test of over half a century.

The United Nations in planting the new organization in America will accordingly find its soil already cultivated in the ways of peace, with a climate favorable to the healthy growth of peaceful institutions and an environment of good will and sincere cooperation for the successful achievement of the high hopes of all humanity embodied in its Charter.



# Books in Cultural Relations

HERSCHEL BRICKELL

*Acting Chief, Division of International Exchange of Persons, Department of State*

THE SUBJECT I have chosen for this evening, "Books in Cultural Relations," is so perfectly obvious in its connotations that anyone of you here could, I am sure, make my little speech for me without noticeable effort.

Or we might, as a pleasant change from having someone stand up and make sounds, merely retire into meditative silence for 10 minutes or so, in order to discover what thoughts would be provoked by allowing our minds to play upon the topic selected.

But my situation—and yours as well, of course—is that I promised I would speak, briefly and informally, and I shall carry out the contract to the letter.

The whole matter of cultural relations, I believe, rests upon an exchange of ideas. But until we arrive at thought transmission, we move ideas about mostly by putting them into packages. It just happens that books are about the most convenient packages as yet invented for both the storage and the movement of ideas from place to place.

Many times in our cultural relations work we transport ideas in their original packages, meaning the brains of the people wherein they originated. In other words, we move people from one place to another, so that there may be face-to-face communication. This seems to me highly useful and I see no prospect of its being abandoned as a method any time soon. In fact,



HERSCHEL BRICKELL

its use in diplomacy is one of the most striking features of our times.

But it is expensive and difficult to move people, who are large and bulky as packages, and who also have the disadvantage of being alive and, as members of the human race, likely to be full of odd quirks and crotchets.

Then, too, we move ideas from one place to another by telegraph and telephone and much more still by radio. Nobody would try to cry down the radio as a means of quickly and inexpensively exchanging ideas, but usually the listener has to be in a certain place at a certain time to take advantage of it. He must also have a phenomenal memory.

*An address given November 1, 1945, at a meeting held in connection with the First Pan American Book Exposition at the Pan American Union.*

In addition to books, there are, to be sure, other forms of the printed word that are useful media for the interchange of ideas, such as newspapers and magazines. But newspapers and magazines, even the very best of them, are ephemeral, and while a book written a thousand years ago may very well be much more alive than the current best-seller—in fact if it has survived a thousand years it is certain to be—yesterday's newspaper or last month's magazine is too old to be news and too new to be history.

Any discussion of books as instruments in furthering cultural relations must take into account such wonderful processes as microfilming, to which we owe the preservation of many priceless volumes from destruction during the recent war. I recall reading some months ago that by the use of the camera to reduce the bulk of books a fairly extensive library might be carried in a coat pocket built to shelter a single book, and, I suppose, with its own complete card catalogue.

I am not one to scoff at these modern scientific miracles, which I regard with respect, not unmixed with awe and even fear, but up to this point such a library would be as different from a familiar and well-loved collection of books as a photograph, no matter how good, would be different from a familiar and well-loved human being. I doubt if this is the place for a psychological explanation of what I am trying to say, but we all know that books come alive because of the ideas within them and have a proper entity which they lose when they change form.

Within the past few days I have read that a million of our books would be collected and sent to Russia to replace those destroyed by the Germans. By a curious irony, about the same time I read that millions of our books were needed in the rehabilitation of Germany. The book-

hunger of liberated countries has been widely commented upon by many observers, who report that it is almost as pathetic as the body-hunger that prevails at this moment among millions of people. A simple test of the restoration of real peace to the world will be a return to the free flow of books among peoples, perhaps the best of all tests.

When I look back on the past five years of our government's effort to better cultural relations in the Western Hemisphere I realize all over again that without giving much thought to the subject we turned to books at the very beginning as the best media for explaining our way of life to our neighbors. We started a translation program, a two-way translation program, I should explain, the moment we began to work, and we have never neglected it since. I have frequently thought that our gift of the institution of the free circulating library to Latin America might very well turn out to be our finest contribution to the cause of hemisphere harmony.

We have a large number of cultural institutes or centers in Latin America, some on a grand scale and many others on a very simple scale. But each one has its collection of books as its very core, and many of the collections are representative of the literary production of the countries in which the center exists, as well as our own. A good many of you here know, too, that we maintain libraries on United States models in Mexico City, Managua, and Montevideo, and that they are among the most popular and successful of all our institutions abroad.

Many of you also know that the Office of War Information established collections of our books in widely scattered parts of the world, and I am giving away no secrets at this point when I say that we hope not only to keep these libraries, but to expand their collections and to widen their use-

fulness in all respects. Thus we prove our own faith in the free exchange of books as a means of furthering cultural relations.

I wonder if most of us would not be willing to admit that virtually the whole existing structure of human understanding, as faulty and full of cracks as it is, owes its existence to books. What we know of other peoples and other lands we learned mostly from books, and even if we have seen peoples and lands at first hand we do not know them without an acquaintance with the ideas they have produced.

If we are willing to accept my premise that books have given us what understanding of each other we now possess, and without this understanding it is plain that the best plan for world peace of which the human mind is capable can be no more than a chart-maker's dream, it becomes at once obvious that we have a kind of sacred duty to foment the widest and fullest circulation of good books.

I believe we are ready without too much argument to admit that books can actually do anything. A book could carry the secret of the atom bomb to the remotest corners of the globe, thus assuring us that the world would some day end with a bang and not with a whimper, to paraphrase Mr. T. S. Eliot's famous if somewhat mistaken prophecy. But a book could also provide the human race with a philosophy or a religion which, if properly understood and believed in,

would make it perfectly safe for all of us to play in peace and security with our own little individual atom bombs. Of course, we have this book already.

Which will it be, do you think?

Such exhibits of books as are on display in this beautiful building have their intrinsic and symbolic importance for the world of the future. There will be many exhibitions in the postwar years, provided, of course, we make the proper arrangements for the management of the atomic bomb, and we shall inevitably learn much of the impressive riches of the publishing industry in Mexico City, Buenos Aires, and many other Latin American cities, just as our fellow Americans will learn much and more about our writers and publishers and their products.

Vast progress has been made in the direction of free interchange of books throughout the New World during the war period, in spite of innumerable handicaps. The present exhibition is an unmistakable indication that we are going to continue what we have begun, and I am perfectly confident that it will be continued at a tremendously accelerated pace. I can think of no more hopeful sign that we are on our way to a realization of hemispheric understanding, comprehension and enduring peace.

I am very grateful indeed to have had this opportunity to touch upon two closely related subjects that lie very close to my heart, books and cultural relations.

# Books of the Americas

CLARA CUTLER CHAPIN

*Editorial Division, Pan American Union*

"WE MUST build an inter-American highway paved with books," writes a northern traveler who has been visiting a South American capital. "Our books are a little international conference in themselves," says a librarian, "because here we can see each other's hopes and fears without straining through the fogs of diplomacy." "*Todo se aprende leyendo*," urged Sarmiento, the great teacher-statesman who planned so bravely for Argentina after her nineteenth century tyranny had been overthrown.

A bridge, a highway, a conference, a lesson—all this and more was offered last October to that great visiting public that is constantly flowing through the city of Washington, when the Pan American Union held its First Pan American Book Exposition from October 12 to November 12, 1945. And all this is now ready to be shared with American readers far from Washington, for the library of the Pan American Union is making available in traveling exhibits the books which came from all over the hemisphere.

From 18 American republics 310 publishers and booksellers sent their books to Washington, selecting from recent publications a variety large enough to be truly representative. Some firms sent 40 or 50 volumes; many sent only one or two. Botas of Mexico, Mexico's Fondo de Cultura Económico, Claudio García and Company of Montevideo, Livraria do Globo of Porto Alegre, Brazil, W. M. Jackson of Buenos Aires, and Emecé of Buenos Aires sent more than 200 volumes each. Camacho Roldán of Bogotá and Emecé, Estrada, and Editorial Albatros, all of Buenos Aires,

sent with their consignments specially prepared catalogues listing and describing the books in their exhibits. Books were sent to the exposition from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and the United States.

There were nearly 6,000 of these books. Only a spacious and dignified setting could properly display so large and important an aggregation. Accordingly the Pan American Union set aside for the purpose the wide high-ceiled Hall of the Americas, scene of many momentous official and diplomatic gatherings during the past third of a century. For books of ordinary size specially built racks were set up in rows, with wide intervals to allow much passing between. Each rack held shelves high enough to be convenient for easy browsing. Tables at the back of the hall and in alcoves at the sides held volumes that could not easily be stood on edge; and at the front of the room many of the largest tomes were spread ready for easy opening on the floor of the platform, the same platform from which formal Pan American assemblages have been addressed by great men from all parts of the western hemisphere.

Inside these big and little books was a range of content limited only by the range of human thought. There were stories, poetry, history, biography, and essays; there were books on religion, on law, on medicine, on art, on music, on philosophy and on folklore, on engineering, and on

the natural sciences; there were dictionaries, handbooks, cookbooks, and picture-books.

Publishers in the United States had been asked to send books which would show what they had been offering within a year or two on subjects connected with the Latin American countries—history, philosophy, fiction, and children's tales dealing with those countries, language books, translations from Latin American literature, and classics from south of the Caribbean edited for use in schools of the United States. But publishers from the other countries were under no such limitations. They sent whatever they thought best of their recent issues. There were original works and translations, and their subject matter covered the eastern and

western hemispheres and all aspects of the mind of man. The bookshops of the western world were summed up within the bounds of that white-columned high-windowed hall.

Many of those who came to see the books were already acquainted with bookshops in some of the southern countries, and so were able to compare these books of the 1940's with the books that would probably have been presented had such an exposition been held in the 1920's or before. They noted several changes since those earlier years. Then as now there would have been a rich display of handsomely bound law books; and there would have been much poetry, new and classical fiction, and many books on religious subjects, also much critical writing on literature, painting, sculpture, and architecture. But of works on engineering, management, and applied sciences there would have been very few indeed. Technical books in number and variety are one of the strong features of this 1945 collection—original productions as well as translations of carefully selected standard texts. Medical works include not only the classics of the profession but translations of important new contributions to medical knowledge, and original treatises by physicians struggling with local problems never faced by Hippocrates.

From Latin American publishers the exposition authorities expected to receive a rich store of creative writing, and a wealth of books on the arts of design. They were not disappointed. There were novels and short stories, picturing life in the Americas of the past and of the present. There were many volumes of poetry distilled from human relationships, from man's metaphysical speculations, and from the natural beauties of this western hemisphere. There were original works on philosophy, religion, and history, as well as



THE PRESIDENT OF CHILE AT THE EXPOSITION

President Ríos was one of the first visitors.

books of literary criticism. And there was a vast variety of books on the arts, ranging from conservative texts on religious painting to startling specimens of the abstract, from clear and usable little 50-cent handbooks to sumptuous volumes produced for a few sales at 15 or 20 dollars each. Painting, sculpture, and architecture received the most attention, but there was also no lack of books on gold and silver work, ceramics, and other forms of design.

Mexican and Argentine houses had sent many books of history and criticism on European art, both original works and translations. Asiatic arts as well as the European are treated in Jorge Romero Brest's five-volume *Historia de las artes plásticas*, newly issued by Editorial Poseidon of Buenos Aires, and here the arts are presented, not in an isolated compartment of their own, but in interplay with the other historical factors of their times. From Editorial Schapire in the same city came an informative series in almost pocket size, one brief volume on each of some great names in European art. And side by side with these new works, the exposition showed handsome and well-illustrated Spanish editions of such classics as Vasari's *Lives of the painters*, Ruskin's *Seven lamps of architecture*, Elie Faure's five-part history of art, Auguste Choisy's history of architecture, Jacob Burckhardt's *Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*, and Rainer Maria Rilke's *Rodin*, the last in a volume greatly admired for its color registry, its harmony of design, and its fine Nicholas Cochin type with long ascenders and descenders.

#### *Books on American art*

But with all their European groundwork, critics in the Americas have awakened to the art of their own lands. Some of the finest volumes in the exposition bore witness to this new orientation.

*Redescubrimiento de América en el arte*, the Argentine critic and architect Angel Guido calls the richly illustrated collection of his lectures published by El Ateneo of Buenos Aires; and a worthy gathering from other publishers on both sides of the equator might well be grouped in the shadow of that felicitous title.

Indigenous art was well represented by Salvador Toscano's complete and beautiful study of pre-Columbian art in Mexico and Central America, which treats not only the native architecture, sculpture, and painting, but also the early arts of ceramics, mosaics, goldsmithery, and feather work; it came to the exposition from the University of Mexico. Camacho Roldán of Colombia sent Luis Alberto Acuña's *El arte de los indios colombianos*. El Ateneo of Buenos Aires added Vicente Nadal Mora's *Manual de arte ornamental americano autóctono* and his detailed work on pre-Columbian art in Mexico. From Bogotá came also the Bank of the Republic's illustrated guide to the priceless native gold artifacts described on page 171 of this number.

On colonial art, too, there was much. There was Mario Buschiazzo's *Estudios de arquitectura colonial hispanoamericano*, brought out in Buenos Aires by Guillermo Kraft. There was Fray José María Vargas' *Arte quiteño colonial*, from Imprenta Romero in Quito. There was Pedro-Jean Vignale's well documented *La casa real de moneda de Potosí*, from Editorial Albatros in Buenos Aires, and there were the fine photographs of colonial architecture in various numbers of the Argentine Academy of Fine Arts series, to mention only a few.

Some of the exposition's handsomest books were to be found among those dealing with recent and contemporary art in the Americas. José León Pagano's *Historia del arte argentino*, from L'Amateur, Buenos Aires, presents his earlier monograph in a single volume, large and copiously illus-

trated. The University of Minnesota Press sent an English history of modern Mexican art by Lawrence Schmeckebier. From Guatemala's national printing office came a history of the fine arts in that country by Victor Miguél Díaz. La Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana sent José Alfredo Llerena's *La pintura ecuatoriana del siglo XX*.

Seven of Mexico's great contemporary painters are discussed in Luis Cardoza y Aragón's *La nube y el reloj* (University of Mexico), each with from 15 to 25 plates. Even more sumptuous is the treatment of present-day Argentine painting in Julio E. Payró's *Veintidos pintores* (Editorial Poseidon). With these group studies the exposition displayed such fine contemporary monographs as the University of Mexico's volumes on the Mexican sculptor Ignacio Asúnsolo and on Rodríguez Lozano's sculpture-like paintings, and the book from Peuser of Buenos Aires on the Argentine painter Cesáreo Bernaldo de Quirós.

#### *Books on music*

The Americas do indeed have their own arts of design, and they know it. They have their own music, too; but of this the awareness seems to have come more slowly. For although books of music and books about music and musicians were included in a great many of the boxes that came to the Pan American Union for the exposition, more than three quarters dealt not with America's own music but with the music of various countries in Europe. Of the four books selected by the Pan American Union's music division as offering the most valuable material, only two were devoted to music of American origin. Those two were Carlos Vega's *Panorama de la música popular en Argentina*, which came from Editorial Losada, and Otto Mayer-Serra's *Panorama de la música mexicana*, published by the Fondo de Cultura Económica.

First place among these four was assigned to a book of songs for two, three, four, or five voices, also from the Fondo de Cultura Económica. The book is called *Cancionero de Upsala*; for although these villancicos are songs of sixteenth century Spain, published in Venice in 1556, the manuscript emerged into the twentieth century in Upsala, Sweden, discovered by the learned Malaga diplomat and musicologist Rafael Mitjana y Gordon. Señor Mitjana published some notes on his findings, but never finished his studies. The Mexican achievement consists in producing the first complete modern edition, with music transcribed in modern notation by Jesús Bal y Gay. On the cover is a reproduction of the title page from the Venetian printing of 1556, and the reader is introduced to the text by Isabel Pope's study on the *villancicos* of that period when the word had lost its etymological meaning, village songs, and had not yet become particularly associated with Christmas carols.

Last of the four, but of great value to music libraries, is the *Cancionero musical español de los siglos XV y XVI*, a reprinting of Barbieri's famous work of 1890, long desired by students working on the music of those centuries. This came to the exposition from Editorial Schapire.

An earlier work from the Fondo de Cultura Económica was the outstanding *Danzas de los concheros de San Miguel Allende*, with descriptions and sketches of a group of local dances, and transcriptions of the accompanying music, prepared by Mexico's famous art critics Justino Fernández and Vicente T. Mendoza. Ricordi Americana sent the first volume in its *Músicos de América* series, Juan Francisco Giacobbe's *Julián Aguirre*. From Cuba came an excellent song collection for school and chorus use; from Brazil another, clear and easy to handle.



#### A GROUP OF ART BOOKS

The field of art was especially well represented in the Exposition by both new works and classics, published in handsome editions or in volumes at popular prices.

#### *Social studies and science*

Notable among works of scholarship displayed at the exposition were the *Jornadas* of the center of social studies at the Colegio de México. Thinkers from a goodly number of American and European nations have contributed to this series; they have made studies of their own, and have provided translations from standard authorities on economics, finance, labor, philosophy, literature, etc.

Also from Mexico came *Del nuevo humanismo y otros ensayos*, by Pedro de Alba, Assistant Director of the Pan American

Union, and *La industria eléctrica en México*, by Ernesto Galarza, chief of the Pan American Union's Division of Labor and Social Information.

From El Salvador the Imprenta Nacional sent valuable local materials in a volume compiled by the national committee on folklore, *Recopilaciones de materiales folklóricos salvadoreños*. Haiti too sent folklore material, and also Jules Faine's studies of creole philology. From Guatemala the Tipografía Nacional sent Villacorta's *Historia de la capitania general de Guatemala*, the illustrated volume published in 1942 in honor of the four hundredth anniversary



of the founding of Guatemala's early capital, *La Antigua Guatemala*. Other volumes of history came from Guatemala, including *Ecce Pericles*, an admonitory history of the days of Estrada Cabrera written by Rafael Arévalo Martínez, the poet librarian who now represents Guatemala on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

From Peru came books on history and on sociology, from Honduras history, from the Dominican Republic a number of law books, and from Costa Rica several volumes of poetry. From Ediciones Ercilla of Santiago, Chile, came a consignment that was truly inter-American. For the benefit of Chilean readers Ercilla is publishing recent works by Colombia's Germán Arciniegas and José Eustacio Rivera, poetry by Nicaragua's Rubén Darío, and a host of other books, new and old, by writers in Cuba, Peru, Bolivia, Mexico, Ecuador, and Argentina, all these in addition to its Spanish translations of recent books from the United States.

Two huge tomes bound in pale-gray buckram received high praise from scientists at the exposition. They were the first two volumes of *Genera et species plantarum argentinarum*, beginning a comprehensive study of the flora of Argentina, a presentation which has no parallel in the United States. Each of these volumes, published by Guillermo Kraft in 1943 and 1944, is as large as an atlas and almost too heavy to lift. They have detailed accurate life-size drawings of a flowering branch, photographs showing the plant in its natural setting, and outline maps to define its distribution; original generic and specific descriptions are given in the original Latin, French, German, or early or modern English, followed by fuller descriptions in Spanish, and generic and specific keys. The work is organized by the Institutum Michaelis Lillo of the National

University of Tucumán, under the direction of Horacio Descole, and most of the scientists now active in Argentine botany have made some contribution to this labor of scholarship.

#### *Children's books*

Increasing attention to books for the young was evident in exhibits from many countries. No longer are Central and South American children dependent upon books written in other lands. Beginning with their primer days, these children have books written in their own part of the world, books specially planned to fit their own little corner of time and space, and made entrancing by large clear type, sprightly drawings, and lively color.

School children may have their history served up in simple 10-line stanzas by no less an authority than Colombia's Raimundo Rivas. For the toddler age a literary critic of the standing of Brazil's Erico Verissimo does not disdain to tell a story about a baby elephant. In this same exposition was a book of the Rafael Pombo fables that Colombian children have loved for three quarters of a century, now set to easy music and garnished with gay drawings. There were volumes of Greek myths and of old Danish tales, retold for young Brazilian readers by José Monteiro Lobato. There were libraries of small large-type books from Argentina, one series on history, one on Bible stories, one on inventions, one on classics of literature, all carefully rewritten to hold the interest of the young.

#### *Reference works and translations*

School texts and reference works played an important part in the exposition. There were many helpful handbooks for teaching one of the four American languages to children born to another. Here the observant visitor noted another change, for young Kansans and Vermonters who take

up Spanish in the 1940's are evidently going to find their reading lessons based, not on tales of Seville and Toledo, but on the life and literature of their own Spanish-speaking neighbors. And for the student who is already enough at home in the language to note variations in idiom in the various countries, there was a treasure of information in Charles Kany's newly issued *American Spanish Syntax*, from the University of Chicago Press.

There were dictionaries in great variety. There were plenty of the ordinary two-language kind, English-Portuguese, Spanish-French, etc., and there were many new kinds to provide the student with additional helps—a dictionary of Americanisms, a dictionary of aviation terms, a dictionary of Portuguese verbs and their syntax, a dictionary of local usages in Guatemala, a dictionary of Uruguayan pseudonyms, dictionaries of several Indian tongues, and a new edition of Sell's monumental English-Spanish lexicon of commercial and mechanical terms and words used in the radio, petroleum, boiler, and paint and dye industries.

Translations showed a great range in subject matter. Publishers in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and some of the neighboring countries are offering their readers a wide choice of literature, history, science, and criticism translated from English, French, Russian, and Italian; and to these large assortments they have added such classics from other European languages as the works of Ibsen, Heine, Kant, Lagerlöf, and others.

But these publishers do not limit their offerings to the old and the long accepted. Central and South American book buyers may read in Spanish not only Pushkin, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and Ostrovsky but also Litvinoff and Ilya Ehrenburg; not only Balzac, Daudet, Flaubert, and Dumas but also Geneviève Tabouis and Jules

Romains; not only Shakespeare, Dickens, Mark Twain, and Poe but also Harold Laski and Somerset Maugham, Max Lerner and Erskine Caldwell. Here in this collection are the ominous notes of Nietzsche and Schopenhauer, but here too are the sane race analyses of Ruth Benedict and the ethical clarity of Henry Wallace.

Translations from the English were not always a source of patriotic pride to Washington visitors, for they included some gaudy thrillers and some of our second-rate novels; but with these few were many of our best. And great was the delight of recognition—reunion with cherished new friends as well as with the tried and true. "Why, this is still a new book in New York!" a booklover would exclaim, "and now see it in Spanish!" "*Mujercitas!*" another would cry, "there they all are—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy!"

#### *United States books*

Publishers in the United States had sent books for all ages and all mental levels. From the Harvard University Press came William Rex Crawford's *A century of Latin-American thought*, presenting some twoscore intellectual leaders, from Bello and Sarmiento to Caso and Gilberto Freyre, who have interpreted the ethical, social, and pedagogical influences affecting their peoples.

The University of Chicago Press sent *Rebellion in the backlands*, Samuel Putnam's translation of Euclides da Cunha's celebrated *Os sertões*. From the same press came an anthology of Mexican literature, with selections, each in Spanish and complete in itself, from the prose and poetry of 41 Mexican writers beginning with Hernando Cortés and ending with Alfonso Reyes. Farrar and Rinehart's prize awards for books by Latin American authors were represented by *Broad and alien is the world*, a translation of Ciro Alegría's

*El mundo es ancho y ajeno*, and by a translation of Fernando Alegría's *Lautaro*, the story of an Indian chief of long ago written by a young Chilean who was recently a member of the staff of the Pan American Union.

Many books published in the United States were for the benefit of the very young; school children and even their baby brothers and sisters could find fun in the *Spanish American song and game book*, with its songs in words and music and its illustrated directions for the folk games based on them, all clearly printed in Spanish and English planned for easy reading. This collection was produced three years ago by the WPA of the State of New Mexico, and brought out by A. S. Barnes & Co. of New York.

For high-school language classes F. S. Crofts & Co. sent Mariano Azuela's *Los de abajo* and Rómulo Gallegos' *Doña Bárbara*, with notes and vocabulary to throw light on the Spanish text.

### *Bindings and cover decorations*

Size of volume was a matter that the visitor to the exposition could not fail to notice, because the range was so great. Some of the books on art were almost as large as the two enormous volumes of Argentine botany and the huge and beautifully illustrated edition of the four Gospels, both contributed by Guillermo Kraft. But there were also many small books, some of them smaller than those that are made for ordinary use in this country; and there were whole series of light volumes scarcely larger than our pocket editions. A consignment from La Bolsa de los Libros showed what good literary fare may be bought in Montevideo at prices beginning just above a quarter of a dollar—clear little paper-bound volumes, easy to read and handle, one set devoted to the great writers of Uruguay and another presenting some of the classics of European and other American nations.

Covers of many of the books showed



ONE OF THE BOOKRACKS

A Haitian looks at the exhibit from her county.

color handled with variety and facility. Signatures were often displayed on the cover, sometimes as the principal decorative feature; and maps were ingeniously used for the same purpose. Authors, it seems, are not without honor in the Latin American countries; their names are often given a prominent spot on the cover, and they usually appear at the top of the title page instead of nestling modestly in the middle.

Paper bindings are more generally used in the other Americas than here; in the big book shops of New York and Boston a hurried shopper can usually locate the European and South American sections by glancing around for shelves of paper-bound books. But librarians found in this 1945 collection good evidence of a gradual change; far more of the books were bound in cloth, boards, or leather, they observed, than would have been found in a similar collection 20 years ago. There was the firm padded leather used on some handsomely mounted law commentaries, and there were many books in stiff cardboard and many in buckram.

A five-part history of Ecuador was bound in a heavy coarse-weave cotton crash, home-loomed in the natural color. Another weave of this *lienzo nacional* had been used to bind a choice Colombian volume of paintings and papers on Simón Bolívar, its front cover marked only by a square of brass upon which the Liberator's bold signature had been etched in black. This Bolívar volume, and with it a book of delicate colored plates of Colombia's celebrated orchids, came as a personal loan from the Colombian Ambassador.

Except for the two or three books which had been loaned, this vast treasury of reading matter now belongs to the Columbus Library of the Pan American Union.

Any part of it, large or small, may be borrowed for study.

The books may be consulted in the library's reading room in the Pan American building in Washington; or they may be requested, for limited periods of time, by schools or libraries or other responsible organizations elsewhere. The Columbus library will make a selection of books on any desired topic, and will see that they are properly packed and started from Washington. The library makes no charge for this service, but the group which is borrowing the books will be expected to pay transportation costs in both directions, and to take full responsibility for protecting and safely returning these valuable volumes. No part of the United States is too far from Washington to enjoy this privilege, provided satisfactory safeguards are offered. For schools and libraries outside the United States the library stands ready to make a similar offer if and when the necessary arrangements can be made.

The Pan American Book Exposition was organized, assembled, and directed by Miss Janeiro V. Brooks, Librarian, with the assistance of the entire library staff. Any group wishing to borrow books from the collection displayed at the Book Exposition should write to Miss Brooks at the Pan American Union, Washington 6, D. C. The letter should explain what organization is guaranteeing the safe return of the books, and what plans have been made to take care of them; it should state what kind of books the group wishes to borrow, and for how long a time. Miss Brooks offers an added service to libraries or individual readers who wish to buy their own copies of Latin American books; they may send requests for advice and information, and may ask to be put in touch with publishers in the other Americas.

# A Sampling of Pan American Books

As a contribution to Pan American Day, April 14, 1946, the following selections from books published in the American Republics are presented. Because of space limitations the selections, taken from the books that made up the First Pan American Book Exposition held at the Pan American Union from October 15 to November 15, 1945, are of course inadequate for a representation of the volume and the range of subject matter of present-day book production in Latin America. Furthermore, for the sake of variety, innumerable books of great interest and artistic merit had of necessity to be left aside. For these

reasons, the indulgence of authors, publishers, and readers is asked.

A few countries sent no books to the Exposition. In these cases selections were chosen either from a national author whose work was published in another country, or from books about the country written by authors in neighboring nations.

But it is hoped that these excerpts, meager as they may be, will give the reader a glimpse of the variety of books—many of them new, others classic—that are rolling from the presses in Latin America to add to the enlightenment of the reading public of the Continent.

## *Argentina*

### The Creole Quality in Cordoban Architecture

ANGEL GUIDO

CORDOBAN architecture made a place of its own, but it is only fair to say that its originality was not self-created. This came to it by inheritance, that admirable but distant inheritance from the northern creole style in the Andes, which was able to give a definite turn to the spirit and the form of Hispanic art from the beginning of the seventeenth century on. It is true that the creole quality grows less and less in distinct steps from Bolivia to Córdoba.

At this point in our commentary, it should be added that this quality must undoubtedly have been influenced by the surrounding landscape. The architecture

that we are discussing was to a high degree in contact with regional life.

When one hears an account of the vicissitudes surmounted in raising a church—the history of the building of Córdoba Cathedral is an example—one can measure to what extent the region impressed itself on the final work. Ten monumental churches of wrought stone could be built from foundation to roof in the Peruvian-Bolivian region while one church of adobe or masonry was being built on the pampa. The character of the region made itself felt, and the influence of the surroundings, as Taine might have said, operated unrestrainedly on the elementary sensitiveness of the master workman, more intuitive than intellectual.

*From Redescubrimiento de América en el Arte, by Ángel Guido. Editor, El Ateneo, Buenos Aires 1944, pp. 406-409.*



THE CATHEDRAL, CÓRDOBA

The pampa, then, continued that process of de-Hispanization noted in the north, and did it by stripping architecture of florid ornament. Simple forms, plainly decorated, exist where the air of the pampa is a comrade of spacious arched galleries, of plain white walls, of now and then a sky-blue vault, of broad towers neither elegant nor haughty, and of dignified belfries, firmly set, unostentatious and uncolored.

It must be said that not all examples of eighteenth century architecture in Córdoba show creole influence, and this is also true of Peru and Bolivia. A peculiar thing happened to this art in America. Along with architecture derived from the original style, there appeared examples which were absolutely dissociated from the main current. This is true in southern Argentina as in the north, in Peru and Bolivia, in Mexico too. Nevertheless, the reason is clear. The schools of creole architecture were unnoticed by the Spaniard. It was born spontaneously, and the skill and

tremendous work of an army of Indian builders, artisans, stone and wood carvers, masons, and decorators created a style, although the Spaniard did not recognize it, or at least disregarded its beauty, since anything having to do with the Indian was frankly despised. Behind the Spaniard's back there arose an interesting mestizo style. When master workmen and special plans were sent directly from Spain for the building of a church or mansion, the transplanted example suffered a partial alteration, but always in harmony with the main trend of style.

The architecture of Córdoba was destined to be the bulwark of the last mestization—if the word may be permitted—of the admirable northern style. Its architecture lacks the Quechua or Aymará genius, which so admirably raised the walls of Chan-Chan, built the fortresses of Cuzco, and chiselled the Gate of the Sun at Tiahuanacu, and so marvellously embellished Nazca ceramics. There is also lacking that robust and virile artistic

personality which, after a century's sleep and a cruel subjugation, wove the Indian legend into the architecture of the Inca-Christian temple. Just as the mountain torrent diminishes its energy and fury on reaching its delta in a wide valley, so the vigorous and rugged Andine art, on flowing into the Argentine plain, acquires the calm and peace of our pampa.

Peruvian-Bolivian architecture, boxed in by the peaks of the Andes, produces an exalted and heroic style. It is the *fortissimo* of creole melody. The architecture of the pampa plays the gentle notes of

noble and calm music. It is the *lento* of Indo-Hispanic art. One is the counterpart of the Andine *huaino*, the other of the *vidala*; one is the dance of the Sicuris, rude, ironic, and showy; the other of the *zamba* and the *chacarera*.

Architecture and music, the eternal sister arts, descend from that cramped stage set about by the gigantic Andes to spread out on the infinite extent of the pampa. Both sing the same song, whether expressed on the seven reeds of the Quechua Panpipe, or in the flowing lines crowning a creole façade.

## Bolivia

### The Royal Mint of Potosí

PEDRO-JUAN VIGNALE

TWENTY years of mingled strife and labor passed before the new Mint could be considered fully installed; during somewhat more than a third of a century it formed part of that perfect mechanism that created the imperial economy in the colonies. Set like a bastion in a city of stone, gray and forbidding, it housed a hundred different activities. The street that had formerly been the little plaza frequented by petty thieves—the little stretch of street, let us say—became a salesroom, an open market, the remnants of which the thieves and the tradesmen did not abandon until well into the days of the Republic, according to man's memory and pictures of the time.

Multitudes of llamas, with high-flung heads and cautious steps, looking like wooden saints, entered the patios amid the

shouts of the poncho-clad drivers. They brought their cargoes of firewood, of metal, of food from the valleys, and of salt from Yocalla. Sometimes they came from long distances, bringing with them the scent of the flat arid tablelands many leagues away; they came from Arica, Cobija, Iquique, after weeks of traveling along stony trails buried in the desert. But they arrived as if they had come only a little way, still with their dainty steps, their heads erect, picking their way through the jumble of earthen jugs and ollas with the delicacy of birds.

In the streets the pots boiled next to the strong wall of the building; the uproar seemed to fan the little flames. Thick porridge, soup made of frozen potatoes, corn, stews, and sauces—all these were offered. Displayed on the red blankets were sweet buns and white bread, fresh from the ovens; on other red blankets, nesting on mats of willow twigs, lay eels and various fish, and on still other red blankets the tropics emptied chimimoyas, oranges, limes, grapes from Cinti, strawberries from Cachimayo. Great baskets overflowing with chili peppers and sacks

From *La Casa Real de Moneda de Potosí*, by Pedro-Juan Vignale, Editorial Albatros, Buenos Aires, 1944, pp. 57-58.

of rice, yerba maté, potatoes, and sugar were offered for sale in indefinite and wearisome bickerings across the backs of the beasts of burden. In the patio of the great house, an energetic bell sent its echo down obscure passageways. Wrinkled, twisted, earth-worn hands stirred feverishly in sacks and extracted extraordinary things: herbs, roots, a bezoar stone, chin-chilla pelts.

Against the wall of the cemetery of the expelled priests, or in the atrium, at the foot of the Mudejar tower, the future was read in coca leaves, as little groups waited aghast for a name, for certainty about a destiny. Thin under-nourished children peeped out from under shawls of many colors, like grubs from a flower. Indian women in caps, dark shawls, and baize jackets, their faces sharp as if carved with a knife, pried into everything, running about like dogs. They would take something from under their shawls and imper-

turbably offer it for sale: a silver pineapple, a colored stone, a disk of gold.

There was, too, the clink of coins that sang out their fineness against the flagstones, amid the shouts of impatient llama drivers and grumbling cholas. Aguardiente from Turuchipa, tobacco from Cartagena, beverages of peanuts, of quinoa, of corn mixed with cinnamon, thickened the air with their aromas.

Negro slaves followed pompous ladies, as birds follow the plow. The cold benumbed the harpstrings of the blind, and in innumerable belfries the pious bells pealed as a reminder to a voracious city seduced by tradesmen.

And there, at the edge of the turbulent stream, the gray walls of the great mint rose like moles to the four winds; and from all four directions the multitude crowded against the rigid walls behind which careful workers were amassing the fortune of the Crown.



THE MINT AT POTOSÍ



*Brazil*

## Variability of the Brazilian Physical Environment

EUCLIDES DA CUNHA

CONTRARY to the opinion of those who would assign to the hot countries an expanse of thirty degrees in latitude, Brazil is far from answering to such a description. From a twofold point of view, astro-nomic and geographic, these limits are exaggerated. In addition to the fact that it extends beyond the commonly accepted theoretical demarcation, our country is excluded from such a scheme by its natural features, of landscape relief, which mitigate or reinforce the action of the meteorological agents, creating equatorial climates in the high altitudes and temperate ones in the tropics. Its entire climatology, in any part, inscribed within the ample boundaries of the general cosmological laws, is likely to be subject to those particular natural causes which are nearest at hand. A climate is by way of being the physiological translation of a geographic condition. Defining it in this manner, we must conclude that Brazil, by its very formation, is not likely to have a uniform one.

This is demonstrated by the most recent results—the only ones to be trusted—of meteorological investigations. These show the country to be divided into three clearly distinct zones: the definitely tropical zone, which extends through the northern states to southern Baía, with an average temperature of 88.8 degrees; the temperate zone, extending from São Paulo to Rio

Grande, by way of Paraná and Santa Catarina, between the fifteenth and twentieth isotherms; and, as a transition, the subtropical zone, extending over the north central portions of certain states, from Minas to Paraná.

Here, obviously, are three distinct habitats. Even within their more or less definite limits, however, there are circumstances which diversify them. We shall indicate these in a few rapid strokes.

The disposition of the mountains in Brazil, great upheaved masses which follow the coast in a line perpendicular to the southeast, determines the primary distinctions over large tracts of territory which lie to the east, creating a significant climatological anomaly. The fact of the matter is, the climate here, entirely subordinated to geography, violates the general laws that ordinarily govern it. Starting from the tropics, on the side of Ecuador, its astronomical determination by latitudes yields to disturbing secondary causes, and it is, abnormally, defined by longitudes.

This is a well-known fact. In the extensive strip of coast which runs from Baía to Paraíba more marked changes may be observed accompanying the parallel to the east than along the meridian northward. Those differences in climate and in natural features which in the latter direction are imperceptible stand out clearly in the former. All the way to the far northern regions, Nature exhibits the same unvarying exuberance in the great forests that border the coast; so that a stranger at a rapid glance would believe this to be a

*From Rebellion in the Backlands, a translation by Samuel Putnam of Os Sertões by Euclides da Cunha of Brazil. Copyright, University of Chicago Press, Chicago 1944. Reprinted by permission.*

most fertile tract, of wide extent. On the other hand, beginning with the thirteenth parallel, the forests conceal a vast strip of sterile land, a barren tract, displaying all the inclemencies of a region in which the thermometric and hygrometric readings, marked by exaggerated extremes, vary in inverse ratio.

This is revealed by a brief journey to the west, starting from any point along the coast. The charm is broken, the beautiful illusion gone. Nature is here impoverished: no more great forests and mountaintops, but deserts and depressions, as the region is transformed into the parched and barbarous backlands with their intermittent streams and endless stretch of barren plains, forming a huge dais for the woe-begone landscapes of the drought.

The contrast is most striking. A little more than a hundred miles distant are regions the exact opposite of this, with conditions of life that are equally different. It is as if one had found one's self suddenly in a desert.

And, certainly, those waves of humanity which, during the first two centuries of settlement, swept over the northern tracts on their way west to the interior must have encountered obstacles more serious than the roll of seas and mountains, when they came to cross the meager, bare-stripped caatingas. The failure of the Baians to penetrate to the interior of the country—

and they, by the way, preceded the Paulistas<sup>1</sup>—is an eloquent case in point.

The same, however, is not true of the tropics to the south. Here, the geological warp of the earth, matrix of its interesting morphogeny, remains unalterable over large expanses of the interior, creating the same favorable conditions, the same flora, a climate greatly improved by altitude, and the same animated appearance as far as natureal features are concerned.

The huge bulwark of the granite cordillera, standing perpendicular to the sea, along its inner slopes falls away gently in vast, rolling plains. It forms the abrupt, steeply inclined scarp of the plateaus.

Upon the plateaus, the landscape pictures are more ample and luxuriant, without the exaggerated overwhelming aspect of the mountains. The earth exhibits that "manageability of nature" of which Buckle speaks, while the climate, moderately warm, rivals in mildness the admirable one of southern Europe. It is not here, as in the north, exclusively governed by the southeast wind. Blowing down off the high plains of the interior, the northwest wind is the dominant factor, as throughout the whole of that extensive zone which ranges from the elevated lands of Minas and Rio to Paraná, by way of São Paulo.

<sup>1</sup> (*Inhabitants of the São Paulo region.*)



## Chile

# The Golden Age in Chile

RAÚL SILVA CASTRO

MANY years ago a restless writer, who endowed romanticism with pages whose classic flavor has not been weakened by time, asked himself: "Why did all the illustrious French men of letters, like La Fontaine, Corneille, Molière, Racine, and Bossuet flourish around 1660? Why did all the great painters appear about the year 1510? Why, after those fortunate eras, did nature become so miserly?" Stendhal, the questioner, naturally could not give adequate answers, because no one has ever found them; but that does not detract from the value of the questions. There are periods in the history of a nation during which great men are born almost at the same time, as if eager to compete with one another for glory, and although life separates them so that they engage in different tasks and even fight each other, they form a distinct generation. They are linked by a mysterious bond, and in spite of the differences in their work and in the goals that they pursue, the historian groups them together and calls the period in which they flourished a golden age. Chile witnessed one of those magnificent periods, abounding in men of the highest type, among whom we find the builders of institutions that protect us all and the authors of literary works that instruct and delight us.

The lives of these privileged individuals begin around 1830. We honor them because, following different paths, they sought Goodness, Truth, and Beauty, and their attainments bring us nearer to the

*From Alberto Blest Gana (1830-1920), Estudio Biográfico y Crítico, by Raúl Silva Castro, Imprenta Universitaria, Santiago, Chile, 1941. Obra premiada por la Universidad de Chile.*

ideal fatherland of which we dream. In 1830, in dusty and obscure Santiago—the favorite child of Pedro de Valdivia—was born Alberto Blest Gana, a prolific creator of characters and historical plots, who wrote in a flexible and pleasing style. The critics call him "the Father of the Chilean novel" because he not only was one of the first to write in this form, but he brought it to the greatest heights it has ever reached in Chile. The year 1830 also saw the birth of the restless and unquiet Pedro León Gallo, of the sharp-witted and eloquent Ambrosio Montt, of Diego Barros Arana, known as the historian of Chile, of Marcos Maturana and Galvarino Riveros, both valiant leaders on land and sea, and of Ramón Sotomayor Valdés, vigorous writer and historian.

If we look at the years around 1830, we find, shortly before and shortly after that date, many other prominent men who, with those already mentioned, form a generation of outstanding merit. In 1827, for example, there were born the distinguished statesman Adolfo Ibáñez, the fearless miner and prospector José Santos Ossa, and the poet Eusebio Lillo, composer of our national anthem. In 1928 Ángel Custodio Gallo saw the light of day, and in the following year, Guillermo Blest Gana, a fine poet and the favorite brother of the novelist; Joaquín Larraín Gandarillas, noted priest and writer on religious subjects; and Guillermo Mata, poet of the fatherland and of progress. After 1830 great men continue to appear on the scene. It will be sufficient to cite Benjamín Vicuña Mackenna, born in 1831, and Pedro Lagos, Antonio Smith, and Joaquín Blest Gana, all born in 1832, to prove that the younger brothers of the men born in 1830 were not inferior to them in merit or fame.

This group of eager young men, stimu-

lated by the example of elders such as José Victorino Lastarria, and restrained by such well qualified persons as Andrés Bello, commenced life in the midst of unbounded enthusiasm. The victory of Yungay, which consolidated the country, gave them faith in the future, and the incessant preaching of liberty and democracy, the national struggles in Europe and America (especially the martyrdom of Poland, the attempts to attain unity in Italy, and the repeated failure of plans to establish monarchies in the New World), as well as the

fight to create in Chile a form of government less authoritarian than that of Montt, brought them to an early maturity and drew them into active participation in public life. A number of mining discoveries in Chile and the growing export trade with California and Australia gave them a sense of wealth, and they looked to art to satisfy their restlessness, and to enliven existence within a country lying between the waters of the ocean and the granite of the Andes. In artistic life they saw liberation and a key to better days.

## Colombia

### The Function of Books

RAFAEL MAYA

WHEN our youthful interest has been aroused by books, that influence stays with us for the rest of our lives, and continues to mold our consciousness like a tireless and ever faithful workman who has been given the task of transforming our obscure human essence into clarity of understanding, desire for the good, hunger for beauty, and an insatiable longing for perfection. For we must agree that man is above all a moral being, and most of his responsibilities are concerned with the duty of ethical integrity which falls upon him as a member of the human race.

From the moment when the citizen leaves behind him the tuition of school and family, it is books that take up the whole burden of developing his possibilities. Their teaching is then solemn and mysterious, since the voice of centuries is speaking through their pages, and the

testimony of history lives on between the lines, giving eternal force to the verdicts of the ages. In this sense books must be the voice of truth, the oracle of time, the arbiter of virtue, and the herald of all the ideals which have enlightened the course of history.

Their very lightness and ease of multiplication marks them out for this noble social function. Architecture, statuary, and paintings are daughters of earth; they must have their own natural medium and the right setting in a special portion of the planet. Books are sons of the air. They have something of the nature of lightning in their quick diffusion and in the light they shed. They are citizens everywhere, compatriots of everyone, guests of every human family. To admire Phidias one must journey over land and sea, cross frontiers, and pass through customs. To make the acquaintance of Socrates we need only go to a nearby shop and acquire a volume in which Xenophon sets forth the teachings of the venerable and resolute master. From that moment, Socrates belongs to us. He goes with us through city and country; he may be consulted at any hour; and even at night while we sleep the

*From Alabanzas del Hombre y de la Tierra, Rafael Maya, Librería Voluntad, Bogotá, Colombia, 1947.*



Courtesy of Jorge Zalamea

## YOUNG COLOMBIAN READERS

philosopher's ideas are still there between the pages, like bees which have been gathered in at nightfall and can still be heard working in the dark, if we put an ear to the hollow of the tree where the honeyed swarms have settled.

This social function of books becomes more effective every day, and is gaining ground everywhere. Industrial development and the machine have contributed to it, and speed of communication makes it easy and quick, although on the other hand the very promptness with which knowledge is disseminated through all parts of the earth by use of the press does not fail to bring its own serious difficulties for the life of the intelligence. Books have made our understanding lose in depth what it gains in extent. The sage of old could keep at hand a few convenient manuscripts that contained all the knowledge of his time. Demosthenes could shut himself up to train his taste and learn the secret of eloquence by copying the works of the Greek orators in his own hand, and

yet not find the undertaking too much for his pen.

Even late in the Middle Ages, books were adorned with miniatures, filled with decorative illuminations, and covered in crackling parchment, and a book was a curio not easily acquired, more likely to be the gift of grandees, the pride of priests, and the glory of scholars than to be passed from hand to hand in the market place, as is done today. Naturally the wisdom contained in so choice a coffer could not be offered to the passers-by in the streets; it was destined to enrich a few exceptional minds which served as torches in their time, as orbs of light in the expanse of human intelligence.

With the period of the Renaissance there opens the great redeeming work of the democratization of knowledge. A change comes over the intellectual atmosphere of the peoples of Europe, and we begin to see the disappearance of the giant species among intellects, such as the classical sage and the medieval scholar; they give way

to other species, smaller in stature, which have now multiplied to a remarkable extent.

Parallel with this phenomenon, so deeply rooted in the fields of industry and politics, we find another no less important to the universal ends of knowledge. Knowledge descends to the lower levels of society, touching the hearts and minds of the

people, and bringing spiritual redemption to the serfs of the soil and to the children of darkness. It is true that the summits of intelligence are less lofty; but the lower levels have been raised, and in the end man's thought comes to a new social equilibrium. Henceforth knowledge has ceased to be a privilege of the great, and has become simply a duty of mankind.

## *Costa Rica*

### The Love of Books

RICARDO FERNÁNDEZ GUARDIA

CATHERINE, the good servant grown old by my side, is still unable to explain to herself my love of books. I suspect that, despite the affectionate regard she feels for me, she is not very sure whether or not I have a screw loose. In this respect, she is doing no more than thinking in secret what the neighborhood gossips affirm. On the other hand, she, who believes herself so sensible, is excessively fond of chocolate, and thinks it quite sane to drink half a pound of cocoa a day, despite torments of dyspepsia.

It is true that I love books passionately, and I should be an ingrate if this were not so; because these faithful friends, which cost only a few cents, have soothed for me the sorrows of life. Books are crystallizations of thought, and the greatest wealth that we enjoy; they store the treasures of human thought accumulated in the course of centuries and distribute them generously; they have, like man, a body and a

soul and as in a man, a handsome appearance may cover a mean soul, and an ugly exterior a noble and pure one. The book is the strongest link between men of yesterday, of today, and of tomorrow.

The discovery of a rare book, unknown or long coveted, causes me great delight. At none do I look with disdain, for each one represents an effort. The author of *Don Quixote* says truly that there is no book so bad but that it contains some good. When I am disappointed in the purchase of a book, I do not complain, believing with Quevedo that "whoever buys it and grumbles, derides himself for spending his money badly, rather than the author who caused him to spend it badly." A new book, with its immaculate cover, is as enigmatic as a bride.

. . . The intelligence of an individual is reflected in his way of treating a book. The ignorant one rips off its binding, crumples it, and tears its pages; the fool underscores words and makes marks in the margin; the pedant scribbles it with pointless notes; and everyone writes his name on the inside page. These and other defilers of books are no better than destructive insects. Only intellectual refinement will engender the respect and love deserved by books.

*From La Miniatura, by Ricardo Fernández Guardia, Librería e Imprenta Universal, San José, Costa Rica, 1944.*

## Cuba

## Hernando de Soto as Governor of Cuba

EMILIO ROIG DE LEUCHSENRING

CAPTAIN Hernando de Soto, civil and military governor of Florida, who remained in Cuba as governor only during the time necessary to prepare his expedition for the conquest of Florida, arrived at Santiago, Cuba, in June 1538. In August he started with his cavalcade for Habana, while his family and his troops made the journey by sea along the north coast, in the five boats that then constituted his fleet. On Christmas of that year they were reunited in Habana.<sup>1</sup> Once arrived in that city, he busied himself with carrying out the royal instructions for the construction of a fortress, as has been indicated elsewhere; and when he left Habana for Florida in May 1539, he assigned Mateo de Aceituna to take charge of work on the fortress.

In Habana there was an incident—as Pezuela relates—between Soto and Hernando Ponce, one of the conquerors of Peru who had accumulated a sizable fortune there. Ponce was obliged to make a stop at Habana, little dreaming that in the governor's chair he would find Soto, from whom he had received goods and money, on the condition that they would divide equally “whatever the two during their lifetime should gain or lose, whether it be gifts of the King or what they acquired in campaigns; a kind of pact that was very common among those who car-

ried the conquest into the southern part of the continent.”

Scarcely had Ponce's ship cast anchor in the harbor when Soto sent emissaries to greet him and to invite him to disembark. But Ponce, having no thought of rendering accounts to his partner, endeavored to hide a large part of his fortune by burying it secretly on the coast. Soto's spies discovered this maneuver, which was sheer treachery on Ponce's part toward Soto, and they took possession of the treasure chests and carried them to the governor. The latter, conquering his resentment toward his old friend, turned the chests over to him intact and even offered to share with him the profits he might obtain from the Florida expedition. Confronted with this attitude, Ponce could do no less than ask his companion's pardon, refusing his offers and presenting to the Governor's wife, Doña Inés de Bobadilla—who would govern the Island in her husband's stead during his absence—“a gift of 10,000 gold pesos, which was accepted.” Soto never returned to the Island, for he died on June 30, 1542, and his body was buried in the waters of the Mississippi, which he had discovered.

The expeditions to Mexico and to Florida, for which Cuba was used as a supply base, depopulated the Island of both Spaniards and Indians; the former left in search of new adventures and greater fortunes; the latter were the victims of repeated and cruel persecutions which enslaved or killed them.

Doña Inés was not certain about the

*From Actas Capitulares del Ayuntamiento de la Habana, Municipio de la Habana, 1937.*

<sup>1</sup> Wright, Irene A.: “*Historia documentada de San Cristóbal de la Habana en el siglo XVI*,” basada en los documentos originales existentes en el Archivo General de Indias en Sevilla, La Habana, 1927, t. I, p. 73.

death of her husband until almost the end of 1543, when, says Pezuela, "there arrived a sealed envelope written at Pánuco by Moscoso, which changed her anxiety into dismal certainty, and her own life

flickered out a few months after her last hope had died." As governor she had carried on her duties through two lieutenants, Juan de Rojas in Habana and Bartolomé Ortiz in Santiago.

## *Dominican Republic*

### The Flora of Santo Domingo

R. M. MOSCOSO

COLUMBUS, on his first voyage, was the first to study the flora of Santo Domingo. Upon landing on what is today the Northwest or San Nicolás Peninsula, the Admiral looked enthusiastically at its splendid vegetation, and believed that he saw in many of the trees and shrubs species identical with or similar to those growing on the plain of Castile. He made several entries in his diary to this effect, such as the following: "There are pine trees in the mountains of Hayti that do not bear cones, but rather fruits that look like the olives of the tableland of Seville." Columbus referred to the type of conifers that Labillardière, three centuries later, named *Podocarpus*. At the suggestion of Queen Isabella, the Discoverer collected plants, animals, and other specimens from Hispaniola, and took them to Spain. One of the fruits that Columbus was most interested in was the pineapple or *Ananá* of the Indians, which he described as "a certain fruit that was shaped like a pine tree, had stringy flesh, and was fragrant and mellow like a cantaloupe." This was the favorite fruit of King Ferdinand, according to Peter Martyr of Anghiera.

Another observer of Hispaniola's flora

was Dr. Chanca (Diego Álvarez), a Sevillian physician who accompanied Columbus on his second trip to the New World, and gave an account of his observations, which appear to have been very inaccurate, to the Council of Seville.

There were others who studied the vegetation and flora of Hispaniola in the first years after the discovery of the island. The most important of these was Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés, sent to the island by King Ferdinand as the director of placer mining. He later became commander of the Tower of Homage in Santo Domingo. Oviedo was born in Madrid in 1478. He came to Hispaniola in 1515, stayed for a short time, and returned to Spain the following year. After several voyages, in 1523, 1530, and 1532, he finally settled on the island in 1536, on a ranch near the Jaina River. After remaining there for three years, he returned to Spain, where he lived for another three years or so, and then went back to Santo Domingo, where he died of old age on July 26 of the following year. Oviedo had crossed the ocean thirteen times in his frequent trips to the New World. In 1535, the first part of his interesting work, *Historia general y natural de las Indias*, appeared in Toledo. In this work Oviedo introduced many of the prod-

*From Catalogus Florae Domingensis, R. M. Moscoso, University of Santo Domingo, 1943.*



ucts of the Indies, speaking of them at times in exaggerated terms, as was the custom among chroniclers of the period. He was the first to describe our tree-ferns, and said of them: "Among the many types of ferns there are some that I consider trees; they are as thick as great pines and very high." . . .

Scientific knowledge of the flora of the Island of Santo Domingo dates from the second half of the seventeenth century and the work of Carlos Plumier of the Order of Minims. Plumier, who received his botanical training from Bocone and Tournefort, accompanied Dr. J. D. Surian to the Antilles in 1869, to study the natural products of this island.

[There follows an account of the native and foreign botanists who have studied the flora of the Dominican Republic.]

Our insular flora includes more than 1,200 indigenous plants unknown outside the island, which botanists call endemic, that is, peculiar to the region. These plants bear a close resemblance to others of the same species in the other Antilles, especially the Greater Antilles, which leads to the conclusion that they have the same origin; but isolation has brought about certain differences. Many rare endemic species have disappeared, or are in the process of becoming extinct, as a result of the extension of cultivated areas, especially in heavily populated districts.

## *Ecuador*

# Twentieth Century Ecuadorean Painting

JÓSE ALFREDO LLERENA

DURING the first twenty years of this century, literature did much to help painters get out of a rut. Not only did this happen to us, but in other countries and in other centuries also literary movements have stirred the consciousness of artists. It is true that a group of Ecuadorean symbolist poets, at the beginning of this century, were little heeded because they were not understood, but others of greater simplicity reached the artists with their clear and relatively fresh voices. These clear voices were the symptoms of a growing desire among Ecuadorean intellectuals to know "what Ecuador is." Having previously lived with their minds on far-away countries, without looking at their own home,

there were those who, without ever having left Ecuador, wrote novels in which the scene was laid in Paris. The feeling for our own environment gradually became more vigorous, until it took on tempestuous characteristics in journalism and the magazines. Certain young writers reached the point of demanding Attila's horse in order to drag away everything belonging to the past. A similar state of mind resulted from a slow reaction to various calamities in the country. Furthermore, at this time there arrived, like prophetic messengers, the first books about the social revolution taking place in other parts of the world. The imagination of youth was stirred; it was felt that a new gospel was being preached. In the arts it was caricature that logically took possession of the new movement. All these romantic de-

*From La Pintura Ecuatoriana del Siglo XX, by José Alfredo Llerena, Imprenta de la Universidad Central, Quito, Ecuador.*



Courtesy of the Inter-American Magazine

"INDIAN FIGURES IN A LANDSCAPE," BY EDUARDO KINGMAN

sires for reform were expressed, although vaguely, in a magazine entitled *Caricatura*, issued from 1918 until 1924.

At the same time there appeared magazines with a small format which published poems encouraging a new state of things to replace all the old. Proudhon was the hero of these magazines. By similar ways the periodical literature of Ecuador was passing through all the gradations of Utopia. Painters did not find new roads so easily, even though many accepted the impressionism of the French masters. It was, indeed, a French painter, Paul Bar, who introduced impressionism into Ecuador. On the other hand the Indian was receiving more and more attention. Camilo

Egas, according to Jorge Diez, was the man who definitely introduced the Indian theme into national painting. At present, Camilo Egas lives in the United States, where he directs a school of painting.

From then on, the Indian has been the center of Ecuadorean painting. In fact, the Indian is the most vital theme of our existence. Historically, socially, economically, the Indian is factor number one in our national life. No matter how much Ecuadorean painting has grown through its use of the Indian theme, it has not been able to exhaust the material.

Another subject which offers a wide field to national painting is the cholo. This theme has not been exploited. A foreign

artist, expressing himself with all sincerity, said that the cholo is a valuable subject in Ecuadorean pictorial art, but that he is secondary to the Indian. The cholo is less picturesque, even though perhaps more complex. He also is a determinant in national life. Nevertheless, the cholo has not been profoundly discussed or painted. Neither has the Indian been studied in his most interesting aspects. He has not been dealt with as a stoic who is part of a backward civilization.

Some painters, under Marxist influence,

have painted the Indian as an element of a class looked down on by others, exploited almost in the same way as are beasts of burden. For some reason or other they have not had good results. The paintings so executed have turned out a kind of caricature. Ecuadorean painting has a tremendous task to fulfill in the interpretation of the Indian as a whole. His religious side has not been understood by the painters. In recent years only Eduardo Kingman has found his bearings along these paths.

## *El Salvador*

### Study of a Nation's Folklore

#### SALVADOREAN COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH IN NATIONAL FOLKLORE AND FOLK ARTS

1.—THE First Congress of Folk Arts, which was held in 1928, laid stress upon the importance of folklore and the need for gathering, classifying, and interpreting the folklore material of the various peoples, to prepare the way for a later comparative study of international folklore and for basic investigations of a sociological, historical, artistic, and pedagogical nature.

Various scientists, artists, and educators have pointed to folklore as an important reservoir of source material for determining the collective psychologies of the different nationalities, their customs, habits, and beliefs, their myths and superstitions; in a word, as a revelation of what Jung calls the "collective unconscious."

Folklore is now regarded not as a body of picturesque and arbitrary material subject to improvisation and to the laws of chance, but rather as a profound expres-

sion, irrational, differentiated, primitive, and spontaneous, of a people's basic views of life. To study it is to search out the heart of a people, revealing its psychological, ethical, esthetic, historical, and metaphysical components.

2.—Before folklore can be studied, there must be a clarification of the sociological concept of "people," which has already been brought into focus by the first folklore studies of the romantics of the late 18th century (Herder, the brothers Grimm, etc.), but which has only now been held to be of major significance. A people is a national community linked with its soil and its history, its race and its religion; all social classes take part in it, but its base is laid chiefly in the part of the population dedicated to labor, in farm or factory, in city and country. From a cultural viewpoint the study of folklore regards what a people creates as the work of its anonymous and collective soul, not of specified individuals, and animated by an instinc-

*From Recopilación de Materiales Folkloricos Salvadoreños, Ministry of Public Instruction, Imprenta Nacional, San Salvador, El Salvador. Part I, pp. 15-16.*

tive, not a rational impulse. That which a people creates is primitive, natural, and sound; it bears witness to a common will, and expresses the likenesses rather than the differences among the various individuals who make up the organic group called a people.

3.—In connection with history, the study of folklore enables us to determine the degree of influence exercised upon a people by the traditions, legends, habits and customs, handcraft methods, fashions, etc., of other peoples, while at the same time it identifies that which represents a native creation and an original contribution. In the concrete case of the people of El Salvador, such a study would bring to light the living tradition and the modifications which in the course of our history have been effected in the Spanish folklore brought to our country by the

conquistadors; at the same time it would show us how vital and active is the indigenous tradition, and what has resulted from the fusion of the races. For instance, it is interesting to discover how the Spanish language has been adapted to our country, the new words, phrases, proverbs, ballads, legends, etc., which have been incorporated in the language; or to discover how religious beliefs and rites have been adapted in the festivals, dances, and ceremonies of today by noting the likenesses and differences in religious usage. Folklore is something like a historian's X-ray, since it throws light on the sediment which lies at the bottom of the consciousness and the daily conduct of our people, as a result of its various historical reactions, and supplies us with the base upon which we are to build our national culture.



A SALVADOREAN ORCHESTRA

*Guatemala*

## Three Poems

RAFAEL ARÉVALO MARTÍNEZ

*Representative of Guatemala on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

## LA LECCIÓN DEL AMOR GOZOSO

La lección del amor gozoso,  
oh suceso maravilloso,  
me está enseñando un preceptor;  
y aquella parte que he aprendido  
tuvo por título subido:  
"Naturaleza del amor."

Es el amor cauto y prudente  
y nada iguala su paciencia  
porque el amor es tan paciente  
que vence toda resistencia.

Y es el amor humilde. En esto  
también se encuentra su eficacia,  
porque el amor es tan modesto  
que en el Amado encuentra gracia.

Ah y el amor es tan sufrido  
que el sufrimiento es su almohada  
y lo da todo al ser querido  
y para sí no pide nada.

Y de este sabio y fino modo,  
en que entregarse es lo primero,  
al fin lo suele alcanzar todo  
porque se ha dado por entero.

Voy aprendiendo el dulce oficio  
que es a la par terrible y duro  
porque el amor es sacrificio  
tanto mayor cuanto más puro.

Pero también es tan ligero  
que al fardo presta liviandad;  
y no existió mejor obrero  
porque el amor es libertad.

El zumo limpio de este vino  
ya su vigor a darme empieza;  
que toda fuerza es don divino  
porque el amor es fortaleza.

El amor todo nos lo dona  
pues de suyo es magnificante.  
El amor todo lo perdona  
y lo convierte en dulcedumbre  
porque el amor es indulgente  
y lleno está de mansedumbre.

Y la lección del primer día  
esa que ahora expresar oso,  
fué la lección de amor gozoso,  
pues todo amor es alegría.

## HAY QUE VIVIR COMO EL SOLDADO

Hay que vivir como el soldado,  
el arma al hombro y preparado  
todos los días a luchar;  
dormir en una semivela  
como descansa el centinela  
y otro reposo no anhelar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

Hay que vivir como el viajero,  
en todas partes extranjero  
y sin familia y sin hogar;  
si una mujer nos da posada,  
cabe su bien, no pedir nada  
más que lo que ella quiera dar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

Hay que vivir como el marino  
que nunca es dueño del destino  
y que a la espalda va del mar,  
ese gigante proceloso  
que nunca sabe estar ocioso  
y que es peligro y es azar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

Hay que vivir como el que juega  
y a cada suerte varía entrega  
su propia vida y bienestar,  
y pronto siempre a la partida;  
pero amoroso de la vida  
mientras nos deje continuar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

Hay que vivir como el mendigo  
sin el apego del abrigo  
ni del vestido y el yantar;  
la del harapo, tela suave,

buena techumbre la del ave  
y el del mendrugo buen manjar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

Todo es fortuito e inestable;  
lo que es ingrato y es amable  
los dos se mudan a la par;  
el cambio es duro e incesante  
y únicamente lo constante  
es el motivo de cambiar.

¡Maravilloso bien la vida!

¿QUÉ TE PARECE DE UN PINTOR? . . .

¿Qué te parece de un pintor  
que necesita de un color  
y no lo encuentra cerca de él?  
Así también para pintar  
yo necesito de mojar  
en tu mirada mi pincel.

Tus dulces ojos color de uva,  
como si fuesen honda cuba  
sólo me dan ese matiz,  
cuando me miran suavemente,  
bajo la arcada de tu frente,  
sobre el alcor de tu nariz.

Porque ese toque de misterio  
que colorea mi hemisferio  
con el color de la ilusión  
yo no lo obtengo en otra parte,

sólo lo obtengo con mirarte  
tras el cristal de mi pasión.

Y así los hijos de mi mente  
si tu les faltas, dulce fuente,  
madre sutil de inspiración,  
verán cesar los arrebatos  
todos del numen y nonnatos  
regresarán a su prisión.

Ese milagro, la obra de arte,  
la dan al mundo por igual,  
tus dulces ojos de una parte  
y mi locura que al mirarte  
descubre un mundo celestial.

Porque esas linfas semejantes  
sólo las hallan los amantes  
que tienen índice creador;  
pero se esconden a sus manos,  
como objetivos sobrehumanos,  
mientras no buscan con amor.

¡Ay!, el amor, ¿acaso viene  
cuando uno quiere y se retiene  
cuando uno quiere? Sé de mí  
que he procurado vanamente  
la inspiración en otra fuente;  
pero que siempre la hallo en tí.

Yo mi pincel en la honda cuba  
de tus dos ojos color de uva  
tan suavemente mojaré  
y he de teñir de color verde  
esta gran ansia que me muerde  
no sé de qué ni para qué.

## Haiti

### Besoin de la Musique et de la Danse Chez le Noir

DR. PRICE-MARS

NOUS sera-t-il permis de faire remarquer  
que ces trois éléments: la *danse*, l'*extase* et  
le *sacrifice* ont formé ou forment les parties  
les plus constantes des rites religieux et

qu'on les rencontre liés ou séparés dans les  
religions les plus élevées? Faut-il rappeler  
que, dans l'antiquité gréco-romaine, la  
danse avait très souvent un caractère sacré?  
Les Nabis, les Naxirs d'Israël n'avaient-ils  
point recours à la musique pour provoquer  
la possession de l'Esprit afin que l'Eternel

*From Ainsi Parla L'Oncle, by Dr. [Jean] Price-Mars,  
. . . Bibliothèque Haïtienne, Imprimerie de Compïègne,  
1928.*

parlât par leur bouche? Chez les Hébreux, fête et danse s'exprimant par le même mot "chag,"<sup>1</sup> la Bible ne nous a-t-elle pas appris que David dansa et sauta devant l'arche de l'Eternel venue d'Obed-Edom, et que la cérémonie s'acheva en offrande d'holocauste et sacrifices de prospérités.<sup>2</sup>

En ce qui concerne l'homme noir, il y a lieu, ce me semble, d'établir l'office que la musique et la danse remplissent dans sa vie spirituelle. Si chez tous les primitifs, ces deux arts son intimement associés, chez le nègre leur pouvoir sur l'organisme revêt un caractère nettement biologique. On veut dire que même sous la forme de la ligne mélodique très simple et le pas rythmé qui sont leur expression la plus ordinaire, la Musique et la Danse deviennent un besoin organique chez le noir, elles se muent en apports substantiels quoique impondérables pour alimenter son système nerveux courbé sous le poids de la plus extrême émotivité. Elles colorent toutes les modalités de la vie nègre soit que dans le deuil, les fossoyeurs en cadence psalmodient des lamentations dans les con-

vois funèbres afin de conjurer le sort, soit que dans les foules, l'exaltation de la joie fasse emboucher des hymnes d'allégresse et exploser la surabondance des émotions par le rythme affolé des pas. Au demeurant, danse et musique sont les deux muses tutélaires qui tiennent la primauté du sceptre dans le développement de la vie nègre en son mode primitif. On conçoit aisément de quelle forme particulière, de quelle nuance spécifique se revêt une pensée religieuse qui se déroule dans un tel moule psychologique. Au surplus si l'on ajoute aux conditions déjà énoncées, la qualité même de la perception qui loin d'être l'opération préliminaire de la connaissance telle qu'on l'observe chez l'adulte civilisé n'est ici, le plus souvent, qu'un stade d'émotivité, il n'est pas difficile de comprendre combien la religion nègre se sert du double cadre de la Musique et de la Danse pour exprimer un moment de la sensibilité de la race.

Mais la Musique et la Danse conditionnent également une autre manifestation du sentiment religieux dont l'étude offre un intérêt scientifique de premier ordre.

Il s'agit de l'extase, de la transe ou de la possession.

<sup>1</sup> Alfred Loisy, *La religion d'Israël*, Paris, 1908.  
<sup>2</sup> *II Samuel*, Chap. VI, 12-16, *II Rois*, Chap. III, 15-16.

## Honduras

### Tegucigalpa

MARCOS CARÍAS REYES

IT WAS a great delight for Marco Tulio to climb, in the afternoon stillness, to La Leona Park, or higher up, to the slopes of El Picacho. There one had a full view of the capital city, from the architectural mass of San Felipe on the east to the shaft of the

Obelisk on the south and the Grande River on the west. Above the medley of red roofs rose the towers of the cathedral, the palace, the telegraph building, the penitentiary, and the church of Our Lady of Sorrows. Smoke from a few factories curled into spirals and melted away in the clear twilight atmosphere. Juana Laínez and La Crucita faced each other like two sentinels. In days and nights gone by, both had been covered with fire and smoke.

The city was no picture of sameness. Seen from above, it was not a monotonous expanse of roofs all the same in height,

From *La Heredad*, by Marcos Carías Reyes, *Talleres Tipo-Litográficos "Ariston," Tegucigalpa, D. C., Honduras, 1945.*

with towers rising from them to pierce the clouds. There was a certain charm, beauty, poetry, and spontaneous grace in the irregularity with which the city was laid out. It seemed a far-away copy of some Andalusian town, with its steep streets, its patios planted with shade trees—eucalyptus, cypress, and fragrant orange trees—and its flat roofs displaying carnations and geraniums, and sometimes clothes spread out to dry; occasionally there were eaves revealing the persistent archaism of the construction.

There was Morazán Park, the plaza, the heart of the city, as in all cities which stem from colonial days. In old times the square that contains the erect and martial figure of the mighty general was at the very center of the city. It no longer is. The town has continued to grow unevenly toward all points of the compass, and the original plaza does not have the same relative position in its topography as before. Nevertheless it is here, as in the great centers of the continent, the focus for the comings and goings of urban

activities, because it is the point from which the streets radiate.

On the east the plaza is bounded by the massive pile of the cathedral, relic of colonial times. Thinking wistfully of happy days now past, Marco Tulio gazed upon the high towers, and the round cupola and long bridge connecting them; many a time he had gone running over that bridge, at risk of plunging to the pavement below, trusting only in those wings which grow from childish feet; he had circled the great dome, tapped the big bells, looked at his reflection in the tiles of the arched windows, admired the musicians in the choir, intoxicated himself on the fragrance of the incense, and scattered the birds from their dreams when the organ filled the great arches with its harmonies. . . .

Beside the cathedral, in the open space which reached to the outer wall, there were gardens. On the left a spreading tree shaded various tombs of bygone nuns and of soldiers killed in the last siege; on the right bloomed exquisite pale camellias.

## Mexico

### "We Need a God"

GREGORIO LÓPEZ Y FUENTES

A BRANCH of the river, swollen from rains in the mountains, held us up for several weeks in a barren and stony place.

Most of us took to fishing for food, but we soon noticed that one of our men was at work carving a piece of stone. The strangest part of it was that the man seemed to be moved by a strength that none of the rest of us had, for he failed

even to fish, and consequently to eat, in order to continue his work.

We questioned him.

"It would be a pity," he said, "not to take advantage of this stone. Just see how, with a little effort, one can make a god of it . . . and we need a god. Because we had none, we have suffered many hardships: hunger, cold, discord. . . . We need a god to whom we can speak with confidence, whom we can ask to protect us."

"You are right. We do need a god."

"Yes, because we do not see the other god. . . . We need one whom we can see, in order to be sure he is with us."

The old men, too, agreed that we needed

*From Los Peregrinos Inmóviles, Librería y Ediciones Botas, Mexico, D. F., México, 1944.*



a god. Animated by the ready acceptance of his idea, the man said:

"The earth is full of gods. All these stones have divine form, but not all men know how to see that form. . . . That rock is a god, lifting an arm toward the sky; one would need only to carve the head and the legs and then polish the surface with sand. It would be the god of oblations, but because of its size we could not carry it with us on our journey. . . . That other stone, rounded by the water, looks like a woman, fallen on her knees and with forehead touching the ground, asking mercy of the earth; the goddess of deep prayer. . . . All the earth is full of gods."

The stone the man was working was in truth a god; very much so, because it was not the idea of divinity that had selected the material but rather it was the raw material itself that had suggested the idea of the god. It needed only to be polished a little, smoothing off the roughness it had acquired in the earth.

If the stone had been longer, what perfect proportions of human anatomy the artist might have achieved! But it had almost no neck, and the head, round and black, was set directly on the shoulders. And if at the other extreme it had also been a little longer, how well the legs might have been finished! The head was large and the trunk excessive for such blunt lower extremities. But nevertheless, nothing could be said yet; the artist had scarcely begun to give form to his god.

From that day on we were filled with a new and keen enthusiasm. Why had none of us thought before of what we most needed? A god—so necessary when the morrow is uncertain. . . . And from that day onward we fished for ourselves, and for the man whose masterly eyes could awaken sleeping divinities in the heart of a stone, and for the still unfinished

god. Whenever we took food to the artist, we also offered some to the god who was emerging from the work of his hands.

The sculptor went on explaining:

"The gods are everywhere. From this tree trunk one could fashion a god much more beautiful than this one, but it would be a mortal god, like us. Fire would consume it and insects would ravage it, but divinities of stone live forever."

And the god was all the time taking on a more finished form and the artist continued his carving ever more carefully, as if he lacked strength, although whatever food we carried to him and to the divinity was eaten. Because the god had no neck, he had between chin and breast a necklace in relief, resembling snails; that was so the river would continue to give us abundant fish. In the left hand he held something that looked like a flute, so that contentment would always be with us. And in the right hand was an ear of corn, a guarantee of good harvests.

It was that constant hammering of an idea, giving form to a god, that at the same time brought forth so many theological comments.

"We also are gods," he explained to those who were watching him work, "but we are gods of clay, hardened a little by suffering and the sun. Death is the rain that dissolves us, so that the waters may drag us down, the fire pulverize us, and the wind carry us away."

Or:

"The gods, though powerful, have the same weaknesses as men. They can keep some people in mind and forget others. Therefore it is necessary for us to have our own gods, like this one, who, being with us, will not forget us. He will see our sufferings, and if he does not help us, we must ask through offerings. . . ."

That religious voice awakened a similar feeling in all minds. The god that the

artist was fashioning was a powerful god, for all. But each family wanted to have its divinity, its own familiar god, in order to be able to speak to him intimately, with more confidence: gods of clay, of stone, of obsidian, gods that could be carried without great trouble; gods of water, of fire, of light, of flowers, of rain—a whole polytheism.

The swollen waters of the river branch had receded, but still our departure was delayed in the hope that the divinity would be finished. Finally the old men consecrated it and throughout one whole night the sound of the sacred flute was heard.

Our god was carried by four men. And how many contended for that honor and how few were worthy of it!

## Nicaragua

### La Espiga

RUBÉN DARÍO

Mira el signo sutil que los dedos del viento  
Hacen al agitar el tallo que se inclina

*From Prosas Profanas y Otros Poemas, by Rubén Darío, Claudio García y Cía., Editores, Montevideo, Uruguay.*

Y se alza en una rítmica virtud de movimiento.  
Con el áureo pincel de la flor de la harina.

Trazan sobre la tela azul del firmamento  
El misterio inmortal de la tierra divina  
Y el alma de las cosas que da su sacramento  
En una interminable frescura matutina.

Pues en la paz del campo la faz de Dios asoma,  
De las floridas urnas místico incienso aroma  
El vasto altar en donde triunfa la azul sonrisa;

Aún verde está y cubierto de flores el madero,  
Bajo sus ramas llenas de amor pace el cordero  
Y en la espiga de oro y de luz duerme la misa.



MONUMENT TO RUBÉN DARÍO, MANAGUA

*Panama*

## The Village Pilgrimage

JOSÉ A. CAJAR ESCALA

MORNING unbraided her multicolored tresses and transformed the clear summer sky into a witchery of light. The tom-tom of indefinable drums came down the mountain ways, reaching and invading the whole town. Goyo got up with a jump, ran to meet the procession, and stopped on the edge of town where the people were gathered. The roads were by now whitish lines, enveloped in a cloud of music—the saints were coming from the mountains! As the images drew nearer one could distinguish the tunes played by many guitars and violins, while the bells and drums sounded constantly. The procession reached the crossroads and the saints greeted one another with slight bows, while the heads of the village welcomed them with a volley of shots. The small sacred figures were draped with garlands of votive offerings and flowers. Then everyone stopped, and Santos Domínguez began to say the Rosary. The crowd knelt before filing into the church, followed by hundreds of cholos who came from remote districts, because of their faith. In the church they approached the altar, and after receiving the blessing of the priest they heard Mass. Later the heads of the village delegations, entrusted with the collection of alms, delivered the money they had gotten together. This the priest received smilingly. Then, offering them a cup of wine, he dismissed them with affection.

In the afternoon the cholos began arriving with the offerings promised to God's

Son for His miracles. Goyo recognized Reyes Sánchez, who brought four large handfuls of rice because his harvest had been saved from drought. Mamerto Espinosa, an old revolutionary from the times of Victoriano Lorenzo, approached with a big package of candles in thanks for a cure from illness. The plague which devastated the henyards of La Coca caused María de los Ángeles to bring two of the most handsome of her brood in payment for its salvation. One by one all the humble believers arrived at the feet of the Christ, with the tribute of their veneration.

Afterwards, the people overflowed into the shops, refreshment parlors, and bar-rooms. They had put on new clothes especially for the festivities, the women wearing bright colors, and the men white knee-length trousers and shirts. Others went where the gamblers had set up their apparatus—they never failed to come—in order to place money on a roulette wheel specially prepared for the swindle.

One could hardly walk, for the cholos were everywhere. Only Goyo Alonso had no intention of taking a drink. After greeting some of his friends, and asking about their families he went to the sellers of "silver" votive offerings and paid four pesos for a small tin head for his patron saint, then continued to the church where he knelt before the image of Christ, which suddenly appeared triumphant, resting on the handsome platform on which it was carried. He said a slow short prayer, and full of satisfaction went to the priest and delivered the offering and a quantity of candles. The priest smiled compassionately, asked him nothing, and let him go his way quietly. Undoubtedly he thought, "How ingenuous are these cholos! That is where faith will find refuge when so-called civilization and its vices banish it from society."

*From El Cabecillo, by José A. Cajar Escala, Ferguson and Ferguson, Libreros y Editores, Panamá, 1944, p. 43-46.*

That evening the procession began. Small cars and carts arrived from everywhere, people crowded the sidewalks, and were pressed against the walls of the newly painted houses. . . .

Finally the procession began to move. It seemed to divide itself into two parts. In front were borne the mountain Christs, plain and impressive in their humility, accompanied by the usual instruments. Behind followed the large escort of cholos, all carrying candles, their eyes filled with faith as they asked for the granting of some desire. How broad must be the wake of entreaties following these images! Behind them came Jesus of Nazareth with

His crown of thorns, bare feet, and the cross on His back. He was represented in all shapes and forms, some so touching that one was immediately reminded of the great sufferings of the Teacher of Galilee. Presently there arrived the beautifully adorned platform of the Christ of Esquipulas. He radiated a cloud of sanctity which shook to the marrow all who were fixed by the gaze of those penetrating eyes, gleaming in the light of the lanterns along the way. The statue had an immense number of votive offerings, and seemed to receive with infinite tenderness all the supplications of that Catholic throng, whose prayers rose like a cloud of faith.

## Paraguay

### The Asunción of Yesterday

R. DE LAFUENTE MACHAIN

THE CITY of Asunción was seldom visited by travellers during the colonial period because of its location far from the sea and off the regular commercial routes. Later, the country's first native ruler closed the frontiers, prohibiting the entrance of foreigners, whatever their mission.

As a result, there is very little worth-while descriptive material on the city to give us an idea as to how it developed. When one reads the few accounts that are available, one is struck by their similarity. The authors noted only the superficial features that were apparent to anyone passing quickly through the city, without the time or the ability to look deeply into its characteristics. This would give the impression that Asunción was a poverty-

stricken, uninteresting city, without anything that could hold the attention of the traveller or inspire the study of the artist.

Nevertheless, many of those who went there either prolonged their stay or settled there permanently, and those who left did so regretfully, and always remembered the city with affection.

They were not aware of the cause of this attraction. They yielded unconsciously to the effects of a solicitous and simple hospitality, a mild climate, the brightness and glorious colors of the sky, the redness of the earth, the varied tones of the vegetation, the brilliance of the flowering trees, the gaily-painted, modest houses that harmonize so well with the landscape, and the strong contrasts of sun and shadow that throw the architectural details into high relief.

*From La Asunción de Antaño, by R. de Lafuente Machain, Emecé Editores, S. A., Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1943, p. 13-20.*

As usually happens, the topography of the area influenced the plan of the city and its development in later years. Asunción, on becoming a city, and later the capital of the La Plata Provinces, built its houses on the hillsides sloping down to the bay that serves as the city's port. . . .

If Asunción lacked monumental architecture, it had, instead, woodcarvers who took advantage of the splendid material offered by its forests to do outstanding work, creating a form of art peculiar to the city.

These artists, trained in the workshops of the Franciscan and Jesuit missions, filled the churches and private residences with works of art which, in spite of their originality, the travellers of the period did not know enough to look at or at least to describe in their prime.

It is indeed curious that they went un-

noticed in spite of being, for the most part, within the reach of anyone who walked along the streets of Asunción. At every step there were carved door panels with stylizations of native flowers or artistic patterns; windows with hardwood gratings carved in various patterns; and doorheads, thresholds, and stairs similarly decorated.

And on going inside the houses, travellers must have seen the enormous carved beams resting on sculptured corbels or brackets. Between them, in some cases, were wooden panels forming an ornamental ceiling.

All this there was in abundance, and even today, after almost two centuries of continuous destruction, vestiges of these works, which are being increasingly appreciated, are often discovered in a house in Chacarita or some other secluded suburb by the observant eye of the tourist or the rapacious hand of the antiquarian.

## Peru

### The Seaboard of Peru

JOSÉ LUIS BUSTAMANTE Y RIVERO

*President of Peru*

WHEN from an airplane a passenger beholds the profile of the coast spread out below, his eyes meet a somber perspective that might be called poor and tedious, were it not so strange and so solemn. The waves trace curving lines of foam on the sandy beaches or against the steep rocks of the shoreline. Barren keys and reefs inlay touches of black and white on the steel blue of the ocean. Desert wastes, reddish and gray, extend in desolate

monotony toward the confines of the east. At intervals the soil is corrugated into ochre prominences, into softly curved hillocks, or into crescent-shaped dunes with the luster of *moiré*. But almost always it is the dry sandy plain that dominates the landscape.

The wind plays there as it pleases, rising high in vertical whirls with spirals of dust and gleaming iridescently against the sun. There is a sensation of heaviness and of anguished thirst. This is a thirsty land, made of red clay and glittering quartz crystals. Only occasionally is the continuity of the sterile plain broken transversely by a narrow coastal valley, sheltered and fertile. Into its lap pours the generous stream of water sent by the melting Andine snows to the avid deserts. And greedily the soil takes possession of the stream, absorbs it into its innermost depths, and then gives back the miracle of the water

*Part of an address delivered while Señor Bustamante was Minister of Peru in Uruguay.*

*From "Peru, paisajes y perspectivas," selected by Horacio H. Urteaga and Pedro Ugarteche. Librería e Imprenta Gil, S.A., Lima, Perú, 1941.*

in fields of verdure. How silently, how patiently the vegetation creeps along the slopes, as if it wished to reach the top of the ravine and carry the blessings of the water to the plain itself! Here is a friendly rivalry of goodness: the good water and the good earth. The dryness stimulates the charity of the water, and the gratitude of the desert flowers in the plant.

Within sight of the sea, the valley becomes more happy. It seems to be expanding to breathe more deeply of the salt air, and widens as it approaches the shore. Great cultivated fields brighten the floor of the valley, and here and there the landscape is dotted with the whiteness of houses and the smoke of chimneys. Symmetrical and interminable, the sugar cane and cotton plantations and the vineyards add their distinctive colors to the pattern of the scene. Now it is the cotton that tempers the scorching heat of the atmosphere with the snow of its white bolls. Now it is the cane, among whose musical stalks the wind sweeps and magnifies a sound like that of mythological flutes. Now it is the ancient vineyards where the periodic renewal of their pliant twining branches offers a symbol of perpetual youth. Olive trees shade the dells, and in rows without end the bananas and palms border the paths. Evoking thoughts

of golden treasure, the oranges and lemons, in glorious ripeness, look like balls of fire among the branches, or like canaries bursting out of their nests.

In the midst of all this fertility, of this pleasant earthy fruitfulness, man's energy has struck a dynamic note. Thousands of laborers, their heads covered with wide-brimmed straw hats and their faces shining with the sweat of their work, till the fields. At the river's edge hydroelectric plants extract energy from the waters and, prodigiously changed, the droplets from the river become sparks of light. The sugar mills turn the crackling mass of cane into streams of syrup. The cotton gins hammer out their monotonous chorus. The bales of cotton heap up by thousands in lighters at the ports. Generously the vines pour forth the splendor of their clusters, and in the huge cellars the wine of many past harvests is aging and purifying in the tuns and casks. Monstrous baskets are filled to overflowing with the fruit of the olive groves. And on the highways are the trucks, speeding to empty into the cities the multicolored products of the orchards.

These are the valleys of the Peruvian seaboard; valleys that spread out, one after another, in sharp alternation with our barren and possessive western plain.



United States

# A Page from the English-Spanish Comprehensive Technical Dictionary

LEWIS L. SELL, PH. D.

## B

**B** (a. = antifricción)**back**

**B**(s.“boron”; “British thermal unit”; “induction, magnetic”; **Ba**(s. “barium”; **B. A.**(s. “Association, British”); **B-battery** (s.u. “battery”); **B. and S. wire gauge**(s.“gauge, American wire”)

**babbitt**; **bearing babbitt**(or metal); **babbitt**(or **white or anti-friction**)metal; **babbitting**; **Ea motor metal** ≈ (metal)antifricción; (metal)babbitt(t); metal **blanco**(antifricción); metal para cojinetes; - **anchor**(anchorage, bonding) ≈ anclaje(fijación, sujeción)de la a.; -, **to bond**(or **to anchor**)the ≈ **mantener**(fijar, sujetar)la a.; - **bushed** ≈ **guarnecido** de a.; -, **chill-cast** ≈ a. fundida en coquilla; -, **close-grained** ≈ metal a. de fina cristalización(o de textura compacta o de grano fino); -, **to compact**the ≈ comprimir la a.; -, **to consolidate**the ≈ consolidar el metal a.; -, **die-cast** ≈ a. moldeada por(com)presión; **babbitt**(melting)furnace(or **pot or melter**); **babbitting furnace** ≈ caldereta(crisol, horno) para derretir o fundir babbitt(t); -, **genuine** ≈ babbitt(t)legítimo; verdadero metal a.; **gravity pouring of** ≈ colada de a. por el peso propio del metal; -, **hold of the** ≈ **agarre**(adhesión)del babbitt(t); -, **lead-base** ≈ babbitt con base de plomo; **babbitt-lined**, **bronze-backed**(steel-backed) ≈ regulado en bronce(acero); de metal blanco sobre bronce(acero); - **melts**(or **runs**), **the** ≈ se funde la a.; -, **to mold**(s.“babbitt, to pour”); -, **old** ≈ a. vieja; -, **to pour**(to insert, to cast, to mold) ≈ verter metal a.; -, **to remove**(old) ≈ desbab(b)itar; quitar el babbitt(t); -, **S.A.E.** ≈ antifricción S.A.E.; - **strip** ≈ banda a.; -, **tin-base** ≈ babbitt(t) con base de estaño; -, **to** ≈ revestir(recubrir, forrar)con metal blanco; regular; babbitt(t); **guarnecer** de a.; - (or **to line**)a **bearing**, **to** ≈ forrar(revestir, rellenar, guarnecer)un cojinete(o casquillo)con a.; - **torch**(or **side burner**) ≈ boquilla(o punta)de soplete para desbab(b)itar

tido; **back-to-board knife switch 20** interruptor de cuchilla de conexión por detrás o para la parte de atrás del tablero; - **brake support 15** soporte del freno del malacate de la cuchara; -, **bronze** ≈ casquillo de bronce; - **calipers 11** compás de gruesos de cremallera; - **center**(s.“tail-stock”); -, **chair** ≈ respaldo de silla; -, **cloth** ≈ reverso de la tela  
**back-coupling 3** acoplamiento reactivo(o de retroceso); sintonización retroactiva; - -, **distortion due to 3** distorsión por reacción; - - **effects 3** efectos de reacción  
**back-curtain light**(s. “back-window”); -, **cushion**(ed) ≈ respaldó acojinado; - **to the door, with 1-2** de espaldas a la puerta; -, **to drive 2** recorrer[la carretera]en sentido inverso; empujar(o marchar)hacia atrás; regresar; volver; -, **driver's seat folding 2** marco respaldo asiento conductor; -, **dry 13** fondo posterior seco  
**back-end radiation**; s.a. “end, rear” 3 irradiación hacia(o desde)atrás; - - **reception 3** recepción hacia(o desde)atrás  
**back face**; s.w.**back-face** ≈ cara dorsal(trasera, posterior); **back face of rim 16** superficie interior de llanta; **back face, to 11** repasar(o alisar)la(s) cara(s) trasera(s); **back facing tool 11** herramienta para repasar o alisar caras traseras  
**back-fill**(s.“backfill”)  
**back-fire**(a.w.**backfire**; **back fire**); a.c. back-firing; popping(back); spit-back; spitting back; blow-back; flashbash; spitting through the carburetor; s.a. “blow-back” 12 retroceso(s)de gases(en o hacia el carburador); retroceso(s)en el carburador(o en la combustión); retroceso de chispa(o de la llama de explosión por el carburador); explosiones en el carburador(o en el tubo o conducto de admisión); retorno(s)de llama, retorno(s)[intempestivo(s)]al carburador; contraexplosión; retroceso de la mezcla; falsas explosiones; fogonazo del encendido;

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*Uruguay*

## Boundary Questions in South America

ALBERTO GUANI

BOUNDARY problems among South American states, although they have been both frequent and complex—some, in fact, still exist today—have nevertheless had a less dangerous aspect, when considered from the standpoint of pacific relations among nations, than they have had in other continents.

In South America antagonisms of race or language have never arisen, for the community of origin of the South American nations has eliminated such conflicts. Nor has there been any reason for political or military frontiers to exist between eminently peaceful countries, among which none has ever aspired to imperialistic domination or threatened a hegemony of force over others. In the demarcation of our territories, the religious element has not counted either, and the fixing of boundaries by diplomatic treaties, which in Europe has been a constant source of conflicts of all sorts, has given place to a uniform criterion, the chief elements of which we propose to analyze.

A principle of South American public law, known by the name of *uti possidetis*, was unanimously adopted in 1810. This principle stated that the countries forming our continent would have dominion over and be considered as possessors of the territories that belonged to them *de jure* at the moment of their declarations of independence, in conformity with the boundaries, especially of an administrative order, that the Crowns of Spain and Portugal had already fixed for their provinces.

Original title to these possessions came

*From La Solidaridad Internacional en América, Claudio García y Cía., Editores, Montevideo, Uruguay, 1942.*

from pontifical authority which, at the time of the discovery of America, granted such titles to the Crowns of Spain and Portugal by means of papal bulls. The first of these pontifical decrees was the Bull of Alexander VI relative to the division of the ocean, dated May 4, 1493. It established an imaginary line from the North to the South Pole, and all islands and lands already or later discovered in that direction, located 100 leagues to the west and south of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands, which at that time belonged to no other Christian prince or sovereign, would be ceded and assigned in perpetuity to the Kings of Castile and León and to their heirs and successors.

In July 1494 Ferdinand and Isabella and King John of Portugal signed the Treaty of Tordesillas, which fixed the line of demarcation between the possessions of Spain and Portugal in America. The provisions of the papal bull of Alexander VI were adopted. The limit of Portuguese possessions, islands, and lands already discovered or that might in the future be discovered was set at 370 leagues to the west of the Cape Verde Islands, while beyond that line lay the possessions of the kings of Spain.

The first manifestations of the proprietorship in the discovered territories were evidenced through grants in favor of those who had made the discovery.

The oldest among these were the Spanish grants to Don Vicente Yáñez and next to Don Juan Díaz de Solís, in 1501 and 1508, respectively. Others followed: in 1520, in favor of Captain Francisco Pizarro; in 1529 in favor of Don Simón de Alcozaba



for the discovery of 200 leagues of land between the Straits of Magellan and the place designated Chinché or Chinchá; in 1534 to Pedro Mendoza for the conquest of the Río de la Plata; and so on.

In the Recapitulation of the Laws of the Indies, Chapter XV, Book II (fifth edition, Madrid 1841) may be found the laws creating the audiencias that formed the early territorial limits in America. The first audiencias were twelve in number, divided into governorships, departments, and *alcaldías*, in order that "the subjects of the King may have someone whom they can address and who can govern them in peace and justice." Later laws created new audiencias or modified existing ones.

It is an arduous task to follow the evolution of these demarcations, as well as other matters referring to the Spanish authorities delegated by the monarch to govern the colonies. The preceding brief outline has only the purpose of giving an idea of the administrative origin of the territorial divisions of these regions during the course of the conquest.

When the moment of independence arrived, the new republics adopted, each for itself, what we call the *uti possidetis* of 1810; that is, the boundaries of an administrative order already in effect by order of the sovereigns of Spain and Portugal. . . .

The new independent republics of South America, therefore, succeeded to the titles to the territories that had belonged to Spain and Portugal, and they agreed among themselves to delimit their respective sovereignties on the basis of the administrative limits of the colonial period.

All conflicts over borders that arose later among the various South American republics related in some way to jurisdiction in certain territories where the viceroyalties, the audiencias, the captaincies general, and other administrative subdivisions had existed when the revolt against Spanish domination broke out.

Nevertheless, the principle of *uti possidetis* of 1810 is not absolute. Argentina accepted that date, while Bolivia preferred 1809; these two years correspond, respectively, to the dates of the first movements of independence of the two nations.

Venezuela could very well fix the date as that of the uprising of Miranda, in 1806. In Quito, capital of Ecuador, a Supreme Assembly was established in 1809. The Congress called by Artigas in 1814 proclaimed Uruguay's independence from Spain and Argentina.

These antecedents explain the chronological differences of the first movements of independence. The confusion would be still greater if there were accepted the dates on which the autonomy of the various sections of South America was legally and officially declared, for these acts were the result of a long struggle in which the patriots of San Martín and Bolívar participated indiscriminately, paying no heed to viceroyalties or audiencias.

The year 1810 was chosen because it was during that year that the struggle against the Iberian Peninsula really took shape in all America. No longer was it isolated revolt or sporadic insurrection; it became a general uprising, a war that created rights and obligations that later found their own international juridical development.

## Venezuela

### Poetry of the Incas

MARIANO PICÓN SALAS

A Milder, more homely and intimate note is sounded in Inca poetry, which Ventura García Calderón calls "poetry of the dawn, full of such things as stars, tufts of cotton, and little doves," the mournful poetry found in the *yaraví* or the civic poetry of the *harawí*. What the brightly-colored humming bird and the precious stone mean to Mexican poetry is embodied for the Quechuan in the dove, in the gentle llama, the Indian's solace and companion, or in the crystal water from the mountain-side which the Inca channeled and conserved with a skill all his own.

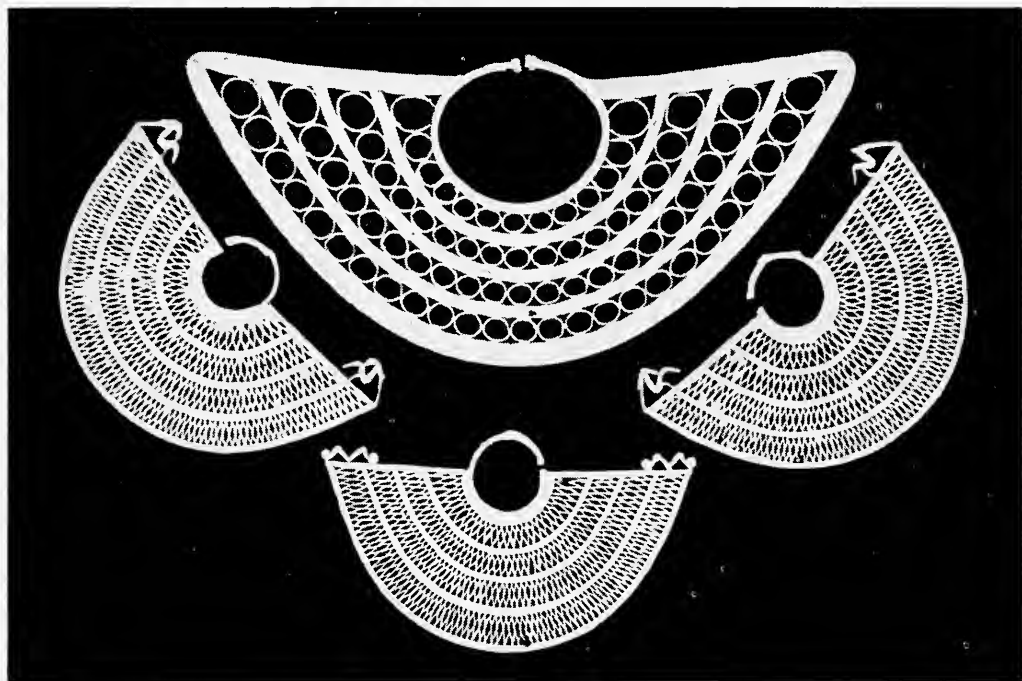
The lyrical animism of the Incas, whose religion had freed itself of the cosmic terror that haunted the Aztecs, invented myths as delicately poetic as the tale of the tired stone which came down from the high Andes to form part of one of the Sovereign's forts, and then, wearied of its journey over cliffs and its treatment at the hand of man, wore away hollow spots and made itself eyes, to shed tears of blood. The idea of rain was not embodied in a terrible myth like the Mexican story of Tlaloc, but was personified in the young girl whose pitcher, brimming with refreshing water, was broken over the earth when her impetuous young brother Lightning shattered it. But there were times when she was able to save her pitcher, and it poured over mankind a welcome shower, the quiet rain that brings the sown fields to their harvest.

Over against the warlike fury of the\*

*From De la Conquista a la Independencia, by Mariano Picón Salas, Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico.*

Aztecs the Quechuan people put forth its more persistent song of peace. In the prayers to Huiracocha which Cristóbal de Molina collected in his *Relación de las fábulas y ritos de los Incas* there are petitions that "the nations may be multiplied, and the lands and peoples remain without danger," that "men may live in safety with their children and their descendants, walking in righteous paths and thinking no evil;" that since man needs food and drink "the foods and fruits of the earth may increase, that potatoes may increase, in order that man may suffer neither hunger nor toil, and all his children come of age;" that "there may be neither frost nor hail," that "the peoples may live long, and not die in their youth; that they may live and eat their bread in peace." The ideal of the paternalistic state was expressed in another short prayer addressed to the earth goddess: "Oh mother earth, let thy son the Inca dwell upon thee in quiet and in peace. \* \* \* "

Quechuan pessimism, more veiled and gentle than that of the Aztecs, sees a symbol of man's woes and doom in the pukuy-pukuy, a mountain bird which is born in the most lonesome of nests and flies over the heights and valleys of the Andes "seeing the grass and the whistling wind." A mood of stifled tears—tears which scarcely dare to break forth—pervades all the *yaravís*. The dews of night are "tears of the moon." Weeping is "the juice of sorrow." "I am drowning in tears," says the chorus of youths in one of the many songs collected by Huamán Poma de Ayala in the sixteenth century. That pessimism brings with it a social attitude of mistrust. "When thou seest a stranger weep for thy sorrow, he is smiling to himself; look to thy flock," says a Quechuan song of today from the Cajamarca region.



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

#### SINÚ NOSE ORNAMENTS

## The Museum of Gold of the Bank of the Republic, Bogotá

GREGORIO HERNÁNDEZ DE ALBA

THE MUSEUM of more than 5,000 gold objects made by Colombian Indians before the Conquest, which has been opened by the Bank of the Republic in Bogotá, has aroused various opinions and awakened different responses, according to the character of its visitors. Presidents and other persons of prominence in the Americas, distinguished Europeans, businessmen, anthropologists, and tourists have passed through the hall of the Bank's Board of Directors where these valuable jewels are

now on exhibition. Some thought that they were witnessing a version of the story of Ali Baba because of the fantastic quality of the artifacts and their intrinsic value. Others found that the display corrected their former low opinion of indigenous cultures. The greatest collection of jewels left by vanished civilizations, says the man who has traveled and seen many museums. A fine example of cultural interest uncommon among banking institutions, it appears to the intellectual. An unequalled labora-

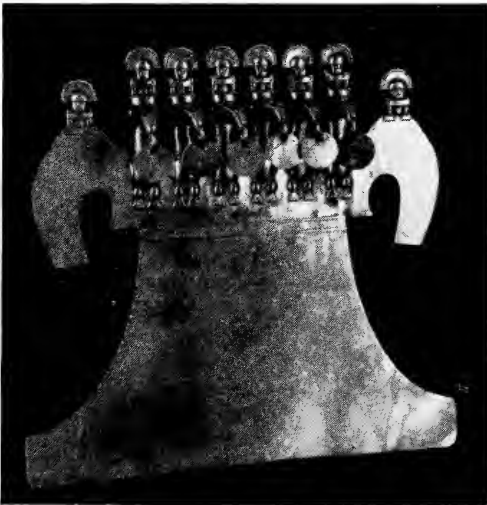
tory for research in ethnology, customs, beliefs, esthetic ideas, and metallurgical skills and inventions, say the anthropologists who thus far have seen the collection. Indeed this array of gold objects is all these things.

The officials of the Bank of the Republic began simply and quickly by acquiring the Arango Collection in Medellín and the Vélez Collection in Manizales. Then they added other smaller collections and all the authentic pieces that the various agents of the Bank throughout the Republic could get from treasure hunters. What was first the excellent idea of saving these irreplaceable objects from being exported or melted down for the use of present-day jewelers or dentists later turned into plans for the organization of a museum whose collections should be classified and presented according to modern methods. Suitable rooms are being constructed in the Bank's building, situated in the heart of Bogotá, to guard and exhibit this wonderful collection.

The Bank has published in a handsome edition a preliminary catalogue

which through brief descriptions and fifty color plates presents some of the most important objects characteristic of the various civilizations that cultivated the technique and art of metalworking in Colombian territory. (Through the courtesy of the Ambassador of Colombia, a copy of this catalogue was on view at the Pan American Union in the recent Book Exhibit.) We give below a brief description of the objects on view in the cases of the Museum of Indigenous Gold, the only one of its kind.

If it is surprising that more than 5,000 objects have already been brought together, it must be remembered nevertheless that this is only a small part of those produced by Colombian Indians. From the moment the Spanish conquerors arrived, the soldiers and settlers began to exploit the gold, not only of the rich deposits, generally alluvial, found in Colombian territory, but also, as an historian of the period said, by killing the live Indians and disinterring the dead ones to despoil both of their ornaments. All this gold—what the conquistadors obtained by washing the sand of the many rivers flowing down the three Andean cordilleras to the valleys and plains, and what was taken from the chiefs, priests, nobles, and wealthy men among the Indians, or excavated from burials—was carried away in Spanish galleons. After being melted down, it was turned into coins, jewelry in the European taste, sacred vessels, and the gold leaf with which Spaniards then commenced to overlay altars in Spain itself and in the churches being raised in the Americas. Among those eager for wealth, Peru became famous as the part of the Andes that produced most gold, but the Spaniards who occupied the Colombian coast along the Atlantic commenced to chant in the new streets of Cartagena de Indias: "Poor Peru if we find Cenú." The riches of



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

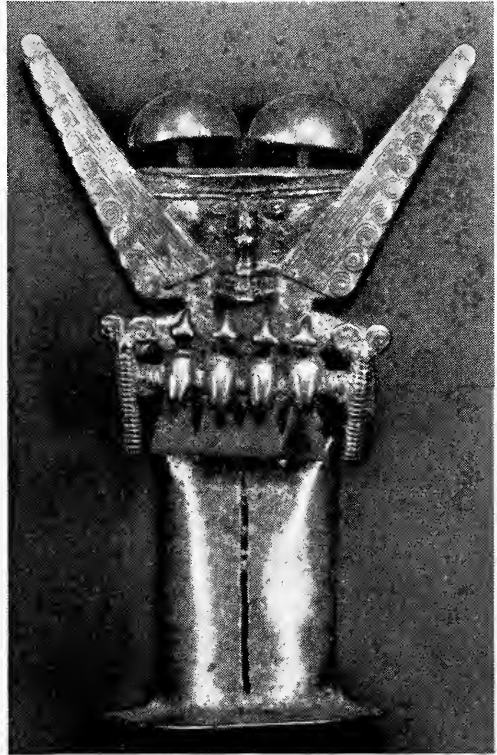
CHIBCHA PECTORAL

Cenú or Sinú were rivaled by the ornaments of the Buriticá, Caramanta, Quimbaya, Cartago, Lile o Cali, Chibcha o Muisca, Tairona, and many other Indians. Having gold in their own regions or obtaining it by trade, they were highly skilled in working this metal, which was enormously prized by Europeans, but for the Indians of America had a different value. This was well expressed by Dr. William C. Farabee, former Chief of the American Section of the University Museum, Philadelphia, in an article published in the *BULLETIN* of the Pan American Union in 1921: "Man very soon learned that gold was a most worthless metal for all practical purposes. It could be used for ornament only and consequently had very little part in the development of primitive culture. Later on it became important in the development of the arts. The American Indians could not understand the craze of the Spaniards to obtain their beautiful golden objects only to melt them down."

This paragraph is still true, especially for Colombia, since in its territory pre-Columbian tools such as the axe, hammer, etc., important factors in civilization, were always made of stone, and although some chisels of pure gold or of a mixture of gold and copper are found in the Gold Museum, their small size is proof that the Indians had not yet found the degree of metallic hardness advantageous for replacing primitive stone tools. The examples in the Museum must have been used for certain delicate work.

Colombia is noted for its goldsmithing techniques, just as, according to Rivet, the high plateau of Bolivia and Peru was the home of technical skill in copper and bronze, the Peruvian coast of silversmithing, and the Esmeraldas Indian region in Ecuador of platinum-working.

No attempt has yet been made to study



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

#### QUIMBAYA FIGURINE

just how the pieces in the Gold Museum were made, but former studies and various analyses and tests as well as the chronicles of early historians show clearly that the Indians produced their gold objects in different techniques, some introduced with the first cultural wave that brought metalworking to Colombia, or others invented by the Colombian Indians themselves. It may be said in brief that the innumerable trinkets, figures, religious offerings, representations of human beings or animals, pectorals, helmets, belts, armor, ornaments such as diadems or coronets, earrings, nose ornaments, necklaces, bracelets, vessels, and bottles, all of which appear in great variety in the museum, were produced by the following methods:



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

ANTIOQUIA STATUETTE

Casting in molds of refractory clay. (It is a mistake to believe in the legend that the Indians had a cold process for softening gold with plant juices.)

Casting wire in molds, and drawing it out and smoothing it with stones.

Laminating by beating between stones.

Soldering by the use of blowpipes and flame or by molten metal.

Casting was more or less perfect according to the different types of mold employed. Most so-called Chibcha *tunjos* must have been poured into sand molds, for the granulations and imperfections



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

QUIMBAYA BOTTLE

of such a system are notorious. The most perfect Chibcha pieces and almost all of the objects made by the Quimbayas and Taironas or produced in Sinú and Chiriquí seem to have been executed *à cire-perdue*. That is, a model was covered with wax, over which a second mold was placed. The wax was melted away and molten gold was poured in to fill its place.

But the Indian techniques went much further. They enabled the goldsmith to obtain objects of different colors, parts like the hand and face of a personage being

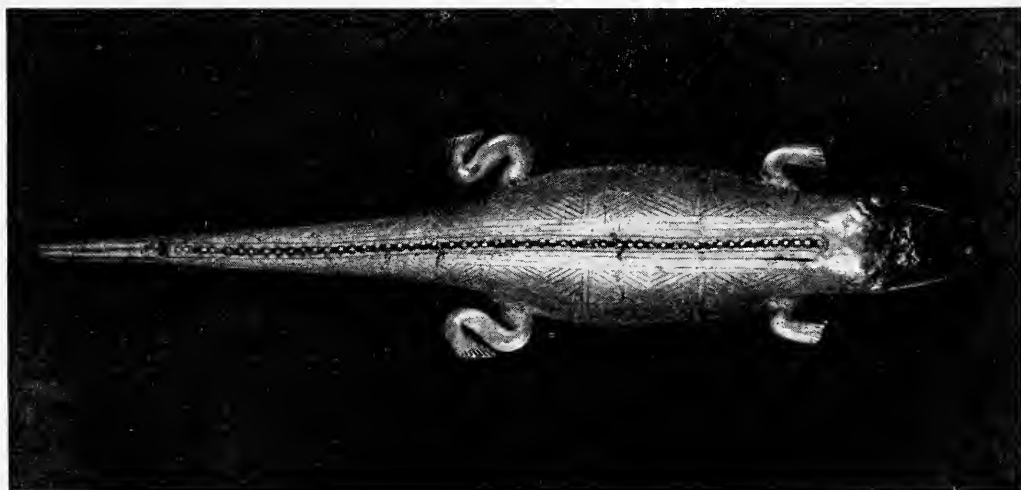
cast separately from the body, which was perhaps made of a different alloy. The objects which have thus far been analyzed show that, while some variation in color and hardness of the gold arose from the varying proportions of copper and silver in the metal as mined, the Indians also varied the hardness and color by intentional alloys of copper, called in Colombia by the generic name of *tumbaga*.

Frequently, too, a copper object may even look like pure gold. This is due to one of the greatest advances in Indian technical skill. The gilding was done by the application of gold leaf over the irregular surfaces of an object of copper or *tumbaga*. The French authorities Arsan-daux and Rivet mentioned three possible methods by which the Indians might have covered their coarser objects with gold: amalgam, which had already been suggested by Baessler and by the American archeologists Lothrop and Orchard; beating, a system that Baessler believes is possible, and the *cire-perdue* method deduced by Holmes, another American archeologist. Indeed there might even

be another method, if Bergsøe's conclusions may be believed, similar to the one used to cover copper with tin. There are also examples in Colombia of the so-called *mise-en-couleur*, a method which gives to an object cast of an alloy high in copper and low in gold, for example, the appearance of gold. This was managed by the Indians by successive beatings and bakings.

In discussing the alloys of gold and copper, called *tumbaga*, that abound in Colombian gold work, Rivet says that it was the Colombians who had the greatest practice in these alloys and extended the knowledge of them north to Panama and south to Ecuador and Peru. The peoples who spread this knowledge spoke the Chibcha language.

It has been said that the Museum collection offers great scope for further study of techniques in addition to the work recently done by such specialists as Lothrop on the gold objects of Coclé in Panama. If this is true, it is certain also that the more than 5,000 objects are a great document that will reveal to students many details



Courtesy of the Bank of the Republic

CAYMAN FROM THE CAUCA VALLEY

of religion (for instance, totems, symbols, idols, divinities, rites); of ethnography (clothing, ornaments, symbols of office or social position, weapons, occupations); of environment (animals, vegetables) of the different cultures or the different peoples who are represented in this great collection by their works of art.

Of the Quimbayas or inhabitants of the Andean region of the Department of Caldas, there are, besides many personal ornaments, finely polished bottles with applied filigree ornaments and cords of gold wire; anthropomorphic figures, masks, zoomorphic figures of ordinary size or as small as flies; ornamented or repoussé pectorals. From the tribes of Antioquia, with a definite influence from those of the Sinú Valley, casts in human form are most important. They are characterized by a distorted mouth and are surmounted with applied half spheres. From the Sinú Valley come filigree nose ornaments made of especially fine wire, notable for their workmanship. Typical of the Cauca Valley are repoussé plaques from which hang small pieces cut and joined by wire, and very natural representations of the cayman.

From the Chibcha region come the little objects cast in the shape of human figures, frogs, and serpents, a pectoral, as beautifully made as the Quimbaya objects, that unites molding, disks, soldering, and even repoussé work, to make it one of the most beautiful pieces in the collection. Of the same origin are sea shells exactly

like the original and great nose ornaments with rhomboidal adornments bordered by a wire braid. From almost all the native peoples represented in the Museum come necklaces that are remarkable for their units of repoussé fish, frogs, birds, or insects, or for shining round beads of various sizes.

Since the illustrations accompanying these pages will say more to the reader about this topic, it remains only to add a few remarks. In the cultural relations and similarities existing in pre-Columbian times among the American peoples a comparison of the gold work and art of Colombia with the most carefully studied civilizations of Central America, Mexico, and the West Indies, and with the metal-working of Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Venezuela should establish or explain cultural or ideological relations that are still little known.

In the era of modern intercommunication opened by the end of the war to the American countries, Colombia and especially Bogotá, its capital, offer another attraction to tourists and a new summons to the interest of the anthropologists of this continent. These men find a warm welcome at the Gold Museum and a true stimulus to studying the mysterious art of the Colombian Indians and learning about the inventions, techniques and ideologies of vanished peoples, who left in the depths of their tombs beautiful vestiges of the civilizations that once existed in the Andes.



# Pan American News

## *Postwar measures in the American Republics*

### *Import, export, price, and funds control*

CERTAIN export duties levied on oleaginous seed byproducts in Argentina in June 1944 were repealed by a presidential decree of November 8, 1945 (*La Prensa*, Buenos Aires, November 9, 1945), although the previous provisions regarding export permits for such products still remain in effect.

Effective November 1, 1945, new profit margins for wholesalers and retailers of cotton textiles, based on the original factory price of the cloth, went into effect in Brazil, fixed by Order No. 415 of the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization (*Diário Oficial*, October 29, 1945). The order required dealers to refigure their selling prices in accordance with the new profit margins within 30 days.

The fact that supplies of gasoline and other fuel oils are gradually assuming more normal proportions is shown by the repeal of rationing measures in various countries. The Cuban Office of Price Regulation and Supply removed restrictions on the distribution and consumption of gas oil, fuel oil, kerosene, and tractor fuel by means of Resolution No. 421, November 30, 1945 (*Gaceta Oficial*, December 3, 1945, p. 24098). Gasoline and *carburante nacional* (a gasoline substitute) are still subject to all restrictions, however, and the price regulations for all types of liquid fuels remain in effect. In El Salvador gasoline was taken off the ration list as of November 1, 1945 (*La Prensa Libre*, San Salvador, October 31, 1945).

Exemption from consular fees and duties was granted on October 5, 1945, in Ecuador on imports of animals for improvement of domestic livestock (Resolution No. 1628, Ministry of Economy, *Registro Oficial*, October 13, 1945). Export control was lifted in Mexico by a decree dated November 12, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, November 27, 1945) on a great number of miscellaneous articles of prime necessity which had been subjected to control by various decrees in 1944. Import controls still exist, however. On November 27, 1945, the Minister of the Treasury, acting in accordance with authority given by a decree of April 15, 1944, issued Circular No. 309-8-10 (*Diario Oficial*, December 4, 1945) containing a list of merchandise subject to import restrictions. The list includes metal and celluloid toys; glass bottles and ampoules; refrigerators; iron and steel furniture; bathroom fixtures; certain chemicals and pharmaceuticals; paints and varnishes; absorbent cotton; guncotton; nonelectric stoves, ovens, toasters, and heaters; lard and lard substitutes; and other miscellaneous products.

The several restrictions and procedures imposed on trade in and exportation of foodstuffs by Haiti in 1943 were lifted by Decree-Law No. 552 of October 12, 1945 (*Le Moniteur*, October 18, 1945). A measure of control was left, however, for the same decree-law gave the President authority to fix annual export quotas and to make any other regulations considered necessary concerning exports of food products.

Early in November 1945 the ration authorities of Nicaragua discontinued price control for nails, machetes, barbed wire, and staples, believing that dealers would continue to sell at ceiling prices.

Ten days later, in view of price increases approaching 200 percent on some of the items, the ceiling prices were put into effect again and purchasers were again required to secure permits to buy from dealers at authorized ceiling prices (*New York Times*, November 17, 1945).

Controls established by the majority of the American Republics early in the war over the circulation of United States currency, in order to prevent its use for Axis purposes, are beginning to be removed or loosened to some extent. In Costa Rica Presidential Decree No. 33, approved September 25, 1945 (*La Gaceta*, September 28, 1945), repealed the portion of Decree No. 29 of September 13, 1942, which restricted the circulation in the country of United States bills of 1-, 2-, 5-, 10-, and 20-dollar denominations. Panama took similar steps with Presidential Decree No. 1312 of October 31, 1945 (*Gaceta Oficial*, November 13, 1945), whereby restrictions against the importation and exportation of funds applied by decrees of June 6, 1942 and November 14, 1942 were limited for the time being to United States currency of 50-dollar or higher denominations. By a decree of June 18, 1942, Uruguay had centralized in the Bank of the Republic the purchase and sale of United States currency. A presidential decree of September 18, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, October 9, 1945) authorized the unrestricted buying and selling of United States currency in 20-dollar or smaller amounts.

#### *Industrial development*

The Government of Haiti, desirous of taking every possible step to develop industrial activity in the country, granted to certain branches of industry working for export trade the benefit of a drawback on raw materials imported for the manufacture of their products. The drawback (authorized by Decree-Law No. 545, ap-

proved September 27, 1945, *Le Moniteur*, September 28, 1945) amounts to 90 percent of import duties; reimbursement will be made after the exportation of the manufactured products. Certain restrictions apply to the drawback privilege; for instance, the raw materials must be of a kind not produced in Haiti at a price to permit the industries to compete with foreign markets; the industries must be engaged in a line considered worthy of encouragement in view of an eventual substantial contribution to the national economy; and finally, the drawback will be granted only if the duties are so high that the manufacturer cannot otherwise sell his product at a reasonable profit.

Another Haitian decree-law (No. 548, approved October 5, 1945, *Le Moniteur*, October 15, 1945) established within the Department of Commerce and National Economy a Small Industries Control Office. Its duty is to supervise and control the quality of the export articles produced by Haitian small industries and to study and recommend all measures that may aid in their development.

The Secretary of National Economy of Mexico issued a resolution on December 21, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, December 24, 1945) authorizing a higher wholesale and retail price for all types of sugar for general, industrial, and bakery purposes. Cane producers had already been granted a price increase of 5 centavos a kilogram (2.2 pounds) in September 1945, but from that increase the sugar industry workers obtained no wage increases and industrialists no benefits; 3 centavos of the increase, in fact, were reserved for the Government for use as indicated by the National Sugar Producers Union in developing sugar production. It was evident, however, that industrialists should receive a margin of profit equal to that of cane producers, to enable them to increase the

wages of their workers and to give an impetus to the industry, and therefore the new wholesale and retail prices were authorized. Furthermore, to equalize distribution costs for all sugar producers in the countries, the price in certain remote production areas was increased still another centavo. This will cover the higher transportation costs in moving the product of those areas to consumption centers.

#### *Rent and housing control*

The Congress of Guatemala put a curb on speculation in urban rents by Legislative Decree No. 167, approved by the President on October 6, 1945 (*Diario de Centro América*, October 15, 1945). The decree froze rents at May 5, 1942, levels for all urban real properties, whatever their use, and prohibited dispossession of tenants as long as they pay their rent, use the property for the purpose for which it was leased, and subject it to no more than ordinary wear and tear, except in cases where the owner wishes to occupy the property himself or when it needs repairs and renovation.

In Panama regulations were issued in Decree No. 1320 of November 10, 1945 (*Gaceta Oficial*, November 19, 1945) regarding the application of Decree No. 1299 of October 11, 1945, which authorized the temporary occupation and use of certain types of dwellings in Panama and Colon as lodgings for persons unable to find living quarters. Local rent boards were given authority to select, take over the houses, and fix rents.

#### *Miscellaneous*

By means of Decree No. 10,417 (*Gaceta Oficial*), September 6, 1945), the Government of Paraguay ordered the closure of a number of Nazi-fascist clubs and social organizations in various parts of the country. Cash on hand and funds re-

sulting from liquidation procedures will be deposited in blocked accounts in the Bank of Paraguay in the name of each of the affected organizations.

A wartime prohibition in Peru against the publication, broadcast, or other dissemination of news concerning the movements of war and merchant vessels and airplanes was repealed by a supreme decree of October 11, 1945.

Foreigners formerly resident in Peru who left to serve in the armed forces of the United Nations are allowed to return and are exempted from the tax on foreigners, in accordance with Supreme Decree No. 1540 of November 21, 1945 (*El Peruano*, November 28, 1945).

The Territory of Baja California, Mexico, which during the war had been on war time like the United States, went back to standard time in compliance with a decree of November 5, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, November 12, 1945).

#### *Bilateral and multilateral measures*

Paraguay took steps toward implementing its procurement agreement with UNRRA by appointing a commission, composed of the Comptroller General and Director of the Treasury, the Director General of Mails and Communications, and the Director of Economic Research of the Bank of Paraguay, to study and recommend a plan for financing the nation's contribution to UNRRA (Decree No. 10,416, *Gaceta Oficial*, September 28, 1945).

The articles of agreement of the International Monetary Fund and of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, known as the Bretton Woods Fund and Bank Agreements, entered into force on December 27, 1945, when the 2 agreements were signed and instruments of acceptance deposited in the United States Department of State on behalf of governments having 65 percent

of the total amounts subscribed therefor. On that date, representatives of the following American Republics, among other nations, affixed their signatures: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia (Fund Agreement only), Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, the United States, and Uruguay. The agreements remained open for signature, with respect to countries that might become original members of the Fund and Bank, through December 31, 1945, and before the deadline 5 other American Republics signed. These were the Dominican Republic on December 28 and Chile, Cuba, Mexico, and Peru on December 31, 1945. Thus 15 of the 21 American Republics became original members of the Fund and Bank, along with 20 others of the United Nations. The two agreements are still open for signature on behalf of the government of any country whose membership may be approved by the Fund or Bank. The total of the quotas for the Fund and the total of subscriptions to the Bank of the 35 countries signatory to those documents are, respectively, \$7,324,500,000 (83.22 percent of the Fund) and \$7,600,000,000 (83.52 percent of the Bank), which are well over the 65 percent

required for the entry into force of the agreements (*Department of State Bulletin*, December 30, 1945, and January 6 and 13, 1946).

### *Peruvian Books for the Library of Congress*

The legend published with this caption under an illustration on page 63 of the February number of the BULLETIN should read as follows:

The five United States publishers who visited South America in 1943 acted as envoys to transmit to the Library of Congress a gift of the Publishers and Printers Association of Lima. The ceremony took place at the Pan American Union on November 1, 1945. In the photograph appear, from left to right: Miss Janeiro V. Brooks, Librarian, Columbus Memorial Library, Pan American Union; Robert F. de Graff, President, Pocket Books, Inc.; Burr L. Chase, President, Silver, Burdett and Company; Herschel Brickell, Acting Chief, Division of International Exchange of Persons, Department of State; Dr. Humberto Fernández Dávila, Chargé d'Affaires of the Peruvian Embassy; George P. Brett, Jr., President, The Macmillan Company; Malcolm Johnson, Vice President, D. Van Nostrand Company; James S. Thompson, President, McGraw-Hill Book Company; and Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; and the Eighth, at Lima in 1938. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions from all the countries, in amounts proportional

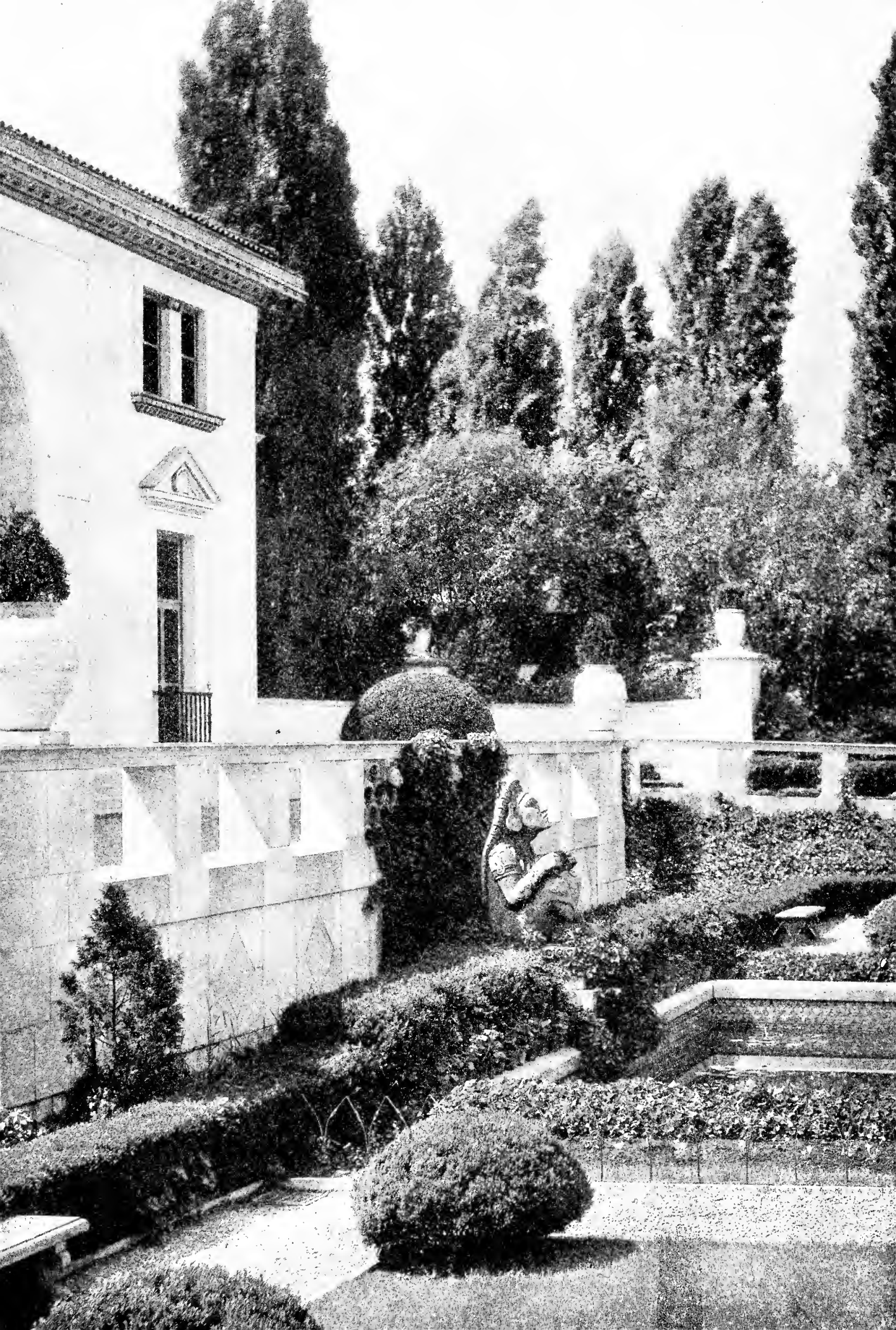
to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 135,000 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



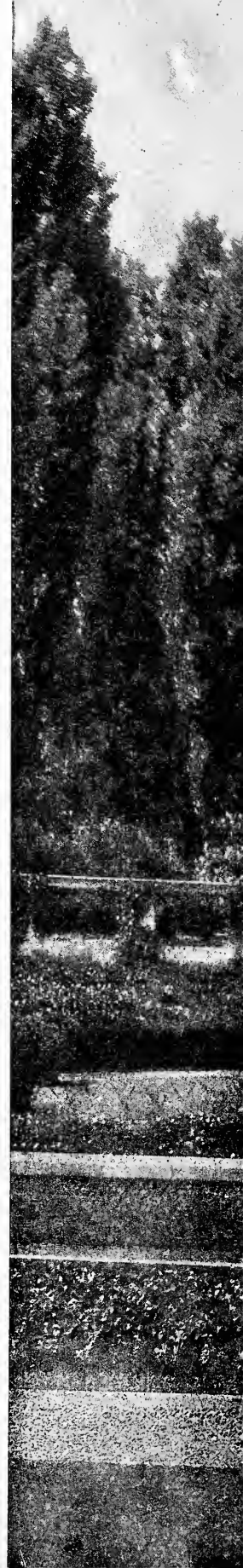


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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: THE GARDEN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION





# GUATEMALA CITY

The Petén region lies far to the north of the Guatemalan capital.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

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APRIL 1946

## Guatemala's Intriguing Petén Problem

ATHERTON LEE

*Director of the Department of New Crops of the United Fruit Company*

THE Department of the Petén, the center of the Old Empire of pre-Columbian Mayan Indians, is the northernmost part of the Republic of Guatemala, and comprises approximately one-third of the surface area of the Republic.

The Petén has a fascinating background of Mayan archaeology. Whereas now the population of the region is less than one person per square mile and Guatemala as a whole has 78 per square mile, the research of Oliver Ricketson<sup>1</sup> has shown that the Maya from the period 600 B. C. to 1400 A. D. reached concentrations of population in the Petén somewhere between a mini-

mum of 270 people per square mile and a maximum of 1,083 per square mile. A conception of these high concentrations of population can best be obtained by comparison with the 1940 figures from the United States, where we had an average of 44.2 people per square mile; New York state has 281.2, California 44.1, North Dakota 9.2, Utah 6.7, and Nevada 1.0 per square mile.

If one takes Ricketson's estimate of 50 percent of the land as cultivable, there would have been a pre-Columbian population for the Petén somewhere between 1,876,500 as a minimum and 7,531,000 as a maximum, the latter more than double the present-day population of all Guatemala. It is notable that this density of the Petén population was dependent entirely on agriculture for maintenance, for there are no evidences of industrialization by the Maya. Thus the conclusion seems logical that in pre-Columbian days

*In presenting this paper the author is enthusiastic in praise of the archaeologists as a professional group for having developed an extensive background of information on the basic natural factors, such as climate, geology, and soils of remote parts of Central America, upon which advances in agriculture can be based.*

<sup>1</sup> Ricketson, Oliver G., *Uaxactun, Guatemala. Group E, 1926-1931, Part I: The Excavations, The Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, D. C., 1937.*

the soils were sufficiently fertile and other environmental factors sufficiently favorable to support a high density of population.

According to Sylvanus Morley,<sup>2</sup> these Indians had made many advances in civilization: "The Maya excelled the Egyptians and Babylonians in their knowledge of the heavenly bodies" and one thousand years earlier than our forebears they had devised a calendar as accurate as our own Gregorian calendar. They had "all essentials of our own modern arithmetic . . . at least five centuries before the Hindus had developed the

<sup>2</sup> Sylvanus Griswold Morley, *Yucatan, home of the gifted Maya*, *The National Geographic Magazine*, Vol. LXX, November 1936, p. 591.



Courtesy of Dr. Tozzer

### THE OLD MAYAN EMPIRE

The geographic position of the pre-Columbian Old Mayan Empire, which included the present-day Petén, was in the northernmost part of Guatemala and southern Mexico.

fundamentals of Arabic notation in India."

The archaeologists have discovered and uncovered many large Mayan buildings, showing that the people must have had an advanced, well developed organization to erect them. Some of the ruins show large courts for a game combining features of handball and soccer. There is evidence that the people for most of their history were peaceful and untroubled by wars. Thus it is clear that not only did the soils of the Petén support a dense population, without aid of military tribute, but also yielded production with sufficient ease to allow time for research, the arts, and sports.

The geological origins of the soils of the Petén are similar to those of northern Yucatan and Cuba, being of Tertiary and Cretaceous limestones, according to Cyrus Lundell.<sup>3</sup> Of present-day central Petén, Lundell says: "The savanna soils are fertile; they yield satisfactory crops with the removal of grasses and other weedy growth." Of southern Petén he says: "The entire region, except small pine areas, in the vicinity of Dolores, is covered with luxuriant broad-leaved forest."

Emerson and Kempton,<sup>4</sup> working in Yucatan, just north of the Petén, report yields of corn of 33 bushels per acre on newly cleared but unplowed fields, but "in the fertile hill country, they [the yields] are doubled or even trebled." According to the Guatemalan Department of Agriculture,<sup>5</sup> the average yield of corn for the country as a whole in 1930-1931 was fourteen bushels per acre. Thus such evidence indicates an environment much more productive than the average in the Tropics,

<sup>3</sup> Lundell, Cyrus Longworth, *The Vegetation of the Petén*, *Carnegie Institution of Washington*, 1937.

<sup>4</sup> Emerson, R. A., and Kempton, J. H., *Agronomic investigations in Yucatan*, *Carnegie Institution of Washington, Yearbook No. 34*, pp. 138 to 142, 1935.

<sup>5</sup> *Estadística agropecuaria*, cuadro 16, *Siembras de Maíz*, 1930-1931.



Courtesy of the Carnegie Institution of Washington

#### A SMALL MAYAN PYRAMID

One of the intriguing examples of ancient Mayan architecture uncovered by the Carnegie Institution of Washington at Uaxactun, in the Petén.

for corn and other crops favored by limestone soils.

Dr. Morley, describing agriculture in adjacent Yucatan, with soil types similar to those of the Petén but with less rainfall, estimates that the average small farmer there, with sixty man-days of labor each year, produces five times as much corn as his family of five can consume; corn, he estimates, constitutes 75 to 85 percent of the present-day normal diet. He concludes that it was the ease of living which gave surplus time to the Maya to organize and build their large market places and temples and to develop their arts and sciences.

Other crops known to have been grown by the pre-Columbian Maya were cotton and cacao; bees were kept for honey and the turkey had been domesticated.<sup>6</sup> The writer observed small dooryard plantings of

sugar cane, mangos, avocados, papayas, plantains, tomatoes, and pasture grasses, and these evidenced not only the considerable fertility of some of these soils of the Petén, but also favorable climatic conditions. Soils of similar origin in Cuba have unusual records for long-term production of sugar cane and corn.

Ricketson has established that the climate of the Petén in pre-Columbian days was probably identical with that which exists at present. The warm moist climate of England, which owes its character to the Gulf Stream, is known to have been identical in 600 B. C. with that which exists today. Since the Gulf Stream is dependent upon the Equatorial Current for its origin, then it is concluded that the Equatorial Current must have been influencing the Petén in 600 B. C. as it does today. The identity of climate is perhaps more concisely established by the finding of timbers in the old Mayan ruins of the same tropical tree species which exist in the Petén today.

<sup>6</sup> Thompson, J. E., *The Civilization of the Maya*, Field Museum of Natural History Leaflet No. 25, Chicago, 1927.



Courtesy of the Guatemalan Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### LUXURIANT VEGETATION IS TYPICAL OF THE PETÉN TODAY

Lundell published rainfall records for a ten-year period in the northern Petén, showing an annual average of seventy inches of rain distributed over eight to nine months of the year. Less rainfall than this produces fine sugar cane and corn yields in many countries. There is heavier rainfall as higher elevations are reached in the southern Petén. It can be concluded that there is adequate rainfall and a favorable climatic environment for many crops.

Although the cause for the disappearance of the Maya is not definitely known, the most readily accepted theory, and that which coincides best with the known data, is that of C. Wythe Cooke<sup>7</sup> of the United

States Geological Survey. He pointed out the great extension in the Petén of swamps, known as *bajos*, which are "flat plains with almost no perceptible relief." "The *bajos* evidently once were lakes. They are still lakes during the rainy season, but have been so nearly filled with silt that a slight depression of water level, due to run-off or evaporation, reduces them to ponds, or drains them completely. The source of the clay that fills them is the soil of the uplands, black, carbonaceous clay formed by the decomposition and solution of limestone and mixed with organic matter."

House mounds with evidences of Mayan occupation have been found by the archaeologists in the midst of these *bajos*, and Cooke points out that such locations are accessible through the extensive

<sup>7</sup> Cooke, C. Wythe, *Why the Mayan cities of the Petén District, Guatemala, were abandoned*, *Journal Washington Academy of Sciences* XXI, pp. 283-287, Washington, D. C., 1931.

swamps only with great difficulty. However, they would be easily accessible by canoe. From this and additional geological background, Cooke's conclusion is that in the days of the Maya the Petén was a land of extensive and numerous lakes. Water transportation was simple, convenient and adequate, and water supplies were no problem. A conception of this beautiful productive land of lakes and clear streams with rich black limestone soils can be obtained from some of the few remaining lakes and rivers existing now, and some of the small areas in cultivation near them.

Cooke continues: "The Mayas were an agricultural people and needed much cleared land to raise the quantities of corn required to feed their large population. The rate of erosion of the soils must have been enormously accelerated when the forest was cut and the cultivated soils were exposed to the full force of the torrential rains." He concludes that soil erosion caused a silting up of the lakes and waterways which gradually eliminated easily

accessible water supplies and convenient easy water transportation. Simultaneously, the erosion was steadily removing from the cultivated lands the rich top-soils which through various biological processes accumulate much the greatest concentrations of crop nutrients. Entomologists say that mosquitoes would increase under these conditions. With fertility of upland cultivated soils impoverished, increasing pressure of population, shortage of water in dry seasons, and easy transportation made impossible, livelihood became much more difficult. Morley indicates that migration was slow and took the direction toward northern Yucatan where subsurface water was nearer the ground level, and particularly to Chichén-Itzá where all-year water supplies were assured.

According to Ricketson, malaria is of European origin, and since Europeans did not reach the Petén until after the Mayas had disappeared from that region, the assumption that malaria was the cause of their disappearance does not seem logical. Not all malariologists will agree that the

#### LAKE PETÉN

The town on the island is Flores, the capital and largest city of the department. The picture shows the varied and rolling nature of the land between waterways.



Courtesy of J. Harold De Veau



evidence is as definite as this. Certainly, however, malaria existed in Europe and was known to be rampant in Italy, Spain, and Portugal in the days of Columbus. In any case, malaria can now be controlled in the Tropics, as is evidenced by the banana plantations under similar environments; it is clearly not a factor which will preclude utilization of Petén soils and climate.

In summation it may be said that there is today an area of eight and one-half million acres, much of which is apparently rich fertile land, with some clear lakes and rivers still present, and with rainfall distribution better than in many areas in the Tropics. Except for wild chicle, this area lies almost completely unproductive.

The obvious productivity of the region in Mayan days, the productivity of nearby Yucatan soils, and the productivity of soils of similar geologic origin in Cuba, all raise the inquiry as to why this region should not be productive today.

Although the present tangled vegetation, swamps, and wild life are forbidding to those unaccustomed to such environment, the country is traversed by mule trails and spotted with airfields; to those familiar with the reclamation of tropical swamps and bush country on other soil types for banana cultivation, these are conditions of every-day environment and accepted as readily susceptible to development for pleasant, interesting living.

In the centuries since pre-Columbian civilization, the renewal of natural vegetation has greatly healed the upland damage from erosion from which the Mayas suffered. But even more important

are the possibilities of lowering the water levels in the extensive areas of *bajos* or swamps, whose soils are accumulations of the rich topsoils of the higher lands. These soils can be expected to be as fertile or more fertile than anything which the pre-Columbian Maya had available. Present-day agricultural engineers would seem to have unusually intriguing opportunities in lowering these water levels with modern tools such as bulldozers and drag-line equipment. Transportation problems also exist, but in this day and age of engineering and diplomacy, these should not even rate as problems.

If to the knowledge of the great prosperity of the Petén in pre-Columbian Mayan days is added present-day knowledge of agricultural engineering, public health, cheap postwar aviation and advances in the sciences of the plant and animal industries, it seems logical to conclude that there are possibilities of a well-populated, prosperous community in a pleasant, fertile countryside.

A second conclusion is logical—that if the Mayan Indians could independently develop such an advanced civilization a few centuries ago, they have the germ-plasm, if given a favorable environment, to share in and contribute to our present-day civilization.

To hundreds of thousands of industrious descendants of the intelligent pre-Columbian Maya, now attempting to farm in unfertile eroded upland areas, the utilization of science in the Petén may offer a much easier living and sufficient margin above a comfortable livelihood for the education of their children.



# Brazil's New President

## General Eurico Gaspar Dutra

ON JANUARY 31, 1946, General Eurico Gaspar Dutra was inaugurated as the new President of Brazil. Elected by a margin of over three million votes on December 2, 1945, General Dutra succeeds Getulio Vargas, who governed Brazil from 1930 to October 1945. Chosen at the same time was a new National Congress, which will also serve as a Constituent Assembly.

General Dutra was born in Cuiabá in the state of Mato Grosso on May 18, 1885. He attended the municipal school in that city, a day school in another town, and finished his preliminary studies in the secondary school in Cuiabá.

Enlisting as a private in the army in 1902, at the age of 17, he was sent to military preparatory and tactical schools first in Rio Pardo and later in Porto Alegre. In 1904 he married Carmela Leite; they have two children, Emilia and Antonio João.

The young cadet studied at the Brazilian Military School in Rio de Janeiro from 1904 to 1908, becoming an officer candidate in the latter year. In 1910 he was made a second lieutenant, and from that time he rose steadily through the ranks, being promoted to first lieutenant in 1916, captain in 1921, major in 1927, lieutenant colonel in 1929, and full colonel in 1931. From 1917 to 1924 he attended the *Escola do Estado Maior* (General Staff School).

He was made a brigadier general and the Director of Military Aviation in 1932. Three years later he attained the rank of General of Division, and took over the command of the First Military Region.

In 1936 President Vargas appointed



General Dutra Minister of War, and he held that post until August 1945. He came to the United States in 1943 as an official guest of the United States Government, and visited the principal war plants and military training camps in this country.

It was General Dutra who organized the Brazilian Expeditionary Force that fought on the side of the United Nations in Italy until the end of the war in Europe. In November 1944, he visited the front lines and saw Brazilian troops in action.

General Dutra is the sixteenth President of Brazil. His term of office under the present Constitution is six years.

# Antonio Rocha

## *Representative of Colombia on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

THE Government of the Republic of Colombia, in compliance with Resolution IX of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, designated as its delegate *ad hoc* to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union Dr. Antonio Rocha, a distinguished lawyer and statesman.

Dr. Rocha was born in the town of El Chaparral in the department of Tolima on November 11, 1899. He received his early education at Bogotá in the Colegio Mayor del Rosario, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy and Letters in 1917. Five years later, he obtained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Letters and in 1923 that of Doctor of Laws and Political and Social Science from the same 300-year-old institution.

His education completed, Dr. Rocha returned to Tolima to occupy the position of judge of the Circuit Court in Ibagué from 1923 to 1926, after which he rose to be magistrate of the Superior Court of the same city. From 1927 to 1930 he was engaged in establishing a branch of the Agricultural Mortgage Bank in Ibagué. In 1930 he was named Governor of Tolima, an office which he held until 1932, when he began a two-year term as the representative of Tolima in Congress. In 1935 Dr. Rocha was appointed a justice on the Supreme Court, of which he became Chief Justice in 1937. While he was still in this high position, he was chosen by the Government to take the portfolio of Minister of Industry and



Labor, and in 1938 that of Minister of Foreign Affairs. At the end of 1938 he retired to private life to devote himself to the practice of law.

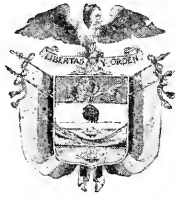
In 1943 the Government again solicited Dr. Rocha's valuable services and placed him at the head of the Ministry of Education. Designated Minister of Government in 1945, he also retained oversight of the Ministry of Education, to which he returned as Minister in June of the same year. He occupied this post when appointed last September to represent his government on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

Meanwhile, Dr. Rocha was reelected in 1940 to a seat in the House of Representatives, and in 1942 became Senator for the department of Tolima for a term to expire in 1947.

Dr. Rocha has been professor of civil and mercantile law in the National University, the Universidad Republicana, and the Faculty of Law of the Colegio Mayor del Rosario, all in Bogotá. He is

the author of *De la Prueba en Derecho*, *Derecho Mercantil Colombiano* y *La Propiedad del Petróleo en Colombia*. Venezuela has made him a Grand Officer of the Order of the Liberator, and Panama has conferred on him the Cross of Balboa.

Dr. Rocha was present at a meeting of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union for the first time on November 21, 1945.



# Luis Quintanilla

## *Representative of Mexico on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

EARLY in January 1946 Mexico, complying with Resolution IX of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, sent a delegate *ad hoc* to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union. He is Ambassador Luis Quintanilla, one of Mexico's outstanding career diplomats, who has twenty-five years of experience in international affairs and is already well known at the Pan American Union because of his service from 1935 to 1942 as Counselor and Minister Counselor at the Mexican Embassy in Washington.

Dr. Quintanilla was born in Paris on November 22, 1900, and his early education was received there. He received his bachelor's degree, and a few years later his master's, at the Sorbonne. In the meantime he came to the United States and attended Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and while stationed in Washington he obtained his doctorate in philosophy and political science from Johns Hopkins University in 1938.

As a very young man Dr. Quintanilla entered Mexico's diplomatic service and the years have taken him to many countries in both the Old World and the New. He has held posts as secretary, counselor, minister counselor, and chargé d'affaires in Mexican legations or embassies in Guatemala City, Rio de Janeiro, Paris, and Washington. In January 1943 his Government appointed him Ambassador to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, where he had the distinction of being the first ambassador from any Latin American country ever to be accredited to the Soviet



Union. After two years in Moscow, he was called to Mexico in order to act as a technical adviser to the Mexican Delegation at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace that met at Chapultepec in February-March 1945. His next assignment was the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, where as a member of the Mexican Delegation he won recognition both at home and abroad by the introduction, accompanied by a stirring address, of the resolution barring the Franco Government of Spain from admission to the United Nations Organization. This resolution was approved by acclamation, without a

single dissenting vote from the forty-nine delegations assembled at the Conference.

At the close of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, Dr. Quintanilla returned to Mexico and was thereupon named Mexican Ambassador before the Government of Colombia. After he had served four months at Bogotá, the Mexican Government appointed him to his present post of special representative, with the rank of Ambassador, on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

In addition to his gifts in the field of diplomacy, Dr. Quintanilla is widely known and recognized for his many other talents. He has taught political science, specializing in Latin American affairs, at The George Washington University in Washington and at Harvard University. He is the author of the book, *A Latin American Speaks*, published early in 1943, just prior to his departure for the Soviet Union. Six editions of the book have been exhausted, and he is now working on a revised edition. He is likewise the author of several volumes of poetry and

plays, has written many articles for magazines and newspapers, and is at present doing a series of columns for the Washington Post, the general title of which, *A Latin American Speaks*, is taken from his book on the Americas. Possessed of a vibrant personality and a refreshing straightforwardness and frankness of expression, he has also achieved no small reputation as a public speaker.

To his new post on the Governing Board, Dr. Quintanilla comes well equipped with the broad knowledge gained from practical experience and from earnest study of the Inter-American System—assets that may be coupled with a deep and genuine interest in world affairs in general. As a member of the Governing Board he will have opportunity to devote his talents and energy directly to the cause of inter-Americanism which he has so diligently sponsored for many years past.

Ambassador Quintanilla made his first official appearance as a member of the Governing Board on January 9, 1946.





Photograph by Christine H. Kempton

#### CELEBRATING THE FOURTH CENTENARY OF TOCUYO

"People danced in the ancient plaza and in the immense patio of the Convent of Our Lady of the Angels."

## Tocuyo Celebrates its Fourth Centennial

CHRISTINE HUDSON KEMPTON

Tocuyo, one of Venezuela's oldest cities, passed its four hundredth anniversary last year.

Its cobbled streets have been scrubbed, its houses painted, the churches reroofed and even an old monastery restored to its former lines; the whole a colossal job, and one that has taken years to accomplish. A former narrow, dusty road that led to the town has been broadened into a smooth highway, and now Tocuyo is

ready for the world to see—a town centuries old yet freshly new and beautiful.

A grand fiesta was held and thousands came to witness the celebration of Tocuyo's founding. A country fair on the outskirts of the city displayed Venezuelan products and handicrafts. Solemn ceremonies were held in the churches. Rockets burst, people danced in the ancient plaza and in the immense patio of the Convent of Our Lady of the Angels.

On the second day of the opening the spacious cloisters of the convent were packed to the roof with those who came to witness the folk dancing in the patio to weird and inimitable music. The animated *joropo* and *tamunangue* produced a fascinating display. No fiesta in Latin America, of course, is complete without the *Conquistadores*, and there they were, in brilliant costumes, dancing in carnival fashion around a maypole.

Tocuyo, from both an historical and an architectural point of view, is one of the most interesting towns in Venezuela. It is more truly Spanish Colonial than any other. Yet in spite of its antiquity and the fact that it has been visited twice by severe earthquakes, the city is far from being a relic. The pride of its citizens, many of whom are direct descendants from the early founders and the conquistadors themselves, has prevented Tocuyo from falling into decay. Its plaza, filled with magnificent trees, palms and flowers, has been maintained throughout the years. Its ancient streets made with stones meticulously laid down by the early Spaniards are in good condition.

In 1545, a band of Spaniards, led by Juan de Carvajal, marched up from Coro, Venezuela's first place of settlement, and in the name of the Spanish crown, founded on the banks of the Tocuyo River the city called *Nuestra Señora de la Pura y Limpia Concepción de El Tocuyo*, Our Lady of the Pure and Stainless Conception of the Tocuyo.

It is always of curious interest why and how the early Spaniards chose their places of settlement. Through stupendous effort, this particular band from Coro on the Caribbean coast, walking for weeks through trackless forests and over deserts, where there was nothing to indicate that there was anything ahead, finally arrived in the rich Tocuyo valley. Reward was theirs for centuries to come. Fertile

farms produced wheat, cattle, and corn. They ground the grain and shipped it across Lake Maracaibo to Maracaibo and Coro. They grew flax and wove it into a fabric which they called *lienzo de Tocuyo*. Much of this they shipped to Spain. All this produced enough to develop the little pueblo into a beautiful city and to give to its citizens, who brought with them old-world tastes and culture, the opportunity to live in true Spanish style.

Their houses today, though following the patio plan of the Spanish house that one sees throughout the country, have added dignity. Their doorways are decorated with the raised plasterwork so dear to the Colonial's heart; their patios are spacious and brimming with flowers. Stout columns uphold the *caña amarga* roofs of the covered corridors around the patios. Carved cornices ornament many of the façades and in one case, carved animals—bulls and sheep—decorate the windows and entrance door.

Tocuyo, perhaps more than any other community, contributed great men to the country, and there is scarcely a block that does not contain some point of historical interest—houses of men who became famous in the arts or in education, or who actually helped construct and weave the lasting fabric of Venezuela.

From here went forth Diego de Losada, down into the valley of San Francisco, and founded Caracas in 1567. It was then called Santiago de León de Caracas and in 1829 was made capital of the country. About the same time Díaz Moreno departed to found Valencia, and in 1552 Juan de Villegas to establish the city of Barquisimeto. These are three of Venezuela's most important cities today. Tocuyo was like a mother who sends her sons forth into the world while she herself remains behind to live out her life in quiet dignity.

The history of the city, however, is not without its gruesome side. The archfiend of Venezuela at the time was one Lope de Aguirre, who terrorized the country by fire, rape, and general murder. He came to the country from Lima, Peru, after a sensational journey of several thousand miles. A party of nine hundred had started out to make its way down the rivers in search of El Dorado. Many died of hardships, many more were killed by Lope de Aguirre, including the leaders. Nearing the end of the journey, the faithful Indian women who had accompanied the party were given to the cannibal Caribs.

On the island of Margarita, where there were, and still are, rich pearl fisheries, Lope ransacked the city, garroted the alcaldes and other prominent citizens, and hanged the governor.

From Margarita he made his way to the mainland and then marched into the in-

terior and up into the highlands, where his terrorizing continued. He hanged the beautiful Ana de Rojas and three Franciscan friars and burned the church at Barquisimeto. Here he was captured, and here "accordingly they gave him a blow on the head from which he dropped dead at once; they cut off his head and carried it to Tocuyo, where they held a great celebration . . . and every year they hold it in commemoration on the Day of the Apostles." So wrote an early Dominican priest.

Even today the mysterious and feared swamp fires that burst forth spontaneously on the *llanos* or plains are known as *aguirres*.

The new highway that runs from Barquisimeto to Tocuyo leads through country very much like parts of our own southwest desert land with tall pipe-organ cactus and a rim of purple mountains around the



Photograph by Christine H. Kempton

#### ENTRANCE TO THE COLONIAL MUSEUM

The doorway of a restored mansion is decorated with the raised plasterwork dear to the Colonial's heart.



### CHURCH OF SANTA ANA

Erected about 1600, this church is one of the Spanish colonial buildings that make Tocuyo the Williamsburg of Venezuela.



Photograph by Christine H. Kempton

edge. Here and there a white chapel exactly like those built by our own padres sparkles in the sun. Mud huts with thatched roofs, the homes of goatherders and lime burners, bring the scene back to Venezuela.

As one drives along, it is difficult to understand why, when there are so many beautiful and fertile places in which to live in Venezuela, rich localities along the rivers where one could grow bananas and corn or in the highlands where it is cool, anyone should choose to live in this hot, dry, infertile region.

Yet it is interesting country to drive through, for there is spectacular scenery at every turn of the road. Dropping off this high plateau into the green valley of Tocuyo, with its miles of sugar cane, is a delight never to be forgotten. The mountains around are magnificent. The high domes and towers of Tocuyo's old churches

soon come into view; the first, the pink dome of La Concepción, is one of the oldest in the city.

In its interesting churches, Tocuyo stands ahead of any other city in the country. They are the most truly Spanish and the least marred by modern ideas of church art, from which many of Venezuela's churches unfortunately suffer.

The first Catholic orders to arrive were the Franciscans and the Dominicans. The church of San Francisco, built in 1587, still stands facing the plaza, its huge buttresses and colonial doorways giving it great dignity.

Santo Domingo is a notable edifice. Begun in 1575 as a small hermitage with monastery attached, it was remodeled two hundred years later to its present form, and though wracked by earthquakes and for many years in disuse, it was restored in time for the anniversary celebration. Its fine

proportions, simple façade, and interior plaster decoration make it one of the most interesting churches in Venezuela.

Concepción, built in 1625, still has its original tower, and the rest of the church has been beautifully restored. It faces what was once the plaza of the city, and is now the parade ground for the barracks beyond. There are several other churches to be seen.

The people of Tocuyo are far from living in the past, however. The city is progressing and with far more grace than is generally found. A large modern school, a fully equipped hospital, a Government Building, and a Center, with library and recreation facilities, for the use of the laboring man are among the new developments.

The women of Tocuyo are a part of its progress, a measure of advancement in any Latin American country. They played an important part in the success of the Quatercentennial, arranging a ballet, costumes, and folk dancing. There is a

Woman's Club interested in civic affairs. The women are in large part responsible for the new Colonial Museum, just opened.

The fine old residence acquired for the museum is in itself an historical monument showing the pattern of living of the Tocuyanos in colonial days. Spacious patios and high-ceilinged rooms contain portraits, old furnishings, and chandeliers. An interesting colonial feature is the painted design on the wall, chair-rail height, a substitute for the bright colored tiles so much used in Spain and in Mexico. Since this Moorish luxury was not to be had in Venezuela except in small quantities, painted walls were used instead.

Those who are planning a tour of South America might well include Tocuyo as a place to visit. It lies in the state of Lara. A famous writer once said that Lara was Venezuela's Castile and Tocuyo her Toledo. To a citizen of the United States Tocuyo might be called the Williamsburg of Venezuela.



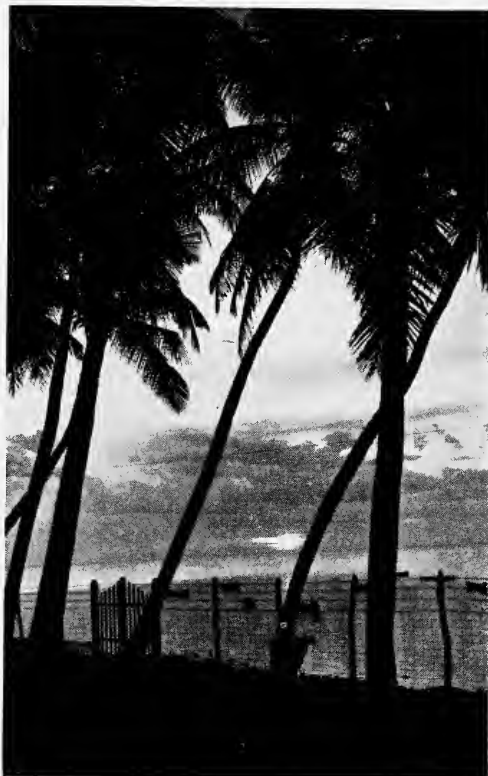
# Campeche, Yucatan

LUISA GREGORY

THE picaresque era of the Caribbean was alive with high adventure and the promise of buried treasure. Although its galleons and pirate sloops belong to the past, it left a heritage, a legend of romance and splendor. The tide of civilization has washed away most of the traces of that swashbuckling period, leaving behind isolated landmarks as evidence of its reality.

Campeche, a sprawling colonial town, is one of the few ports of the Caribbean that is still redolent of the past. Its walls, built as a protection against the pirate marauders of the sixteenth century, still stand. And the way of life, too, has changed only imperceptibly over the centuries. Time has served the city well. It has laid down a soft patina of color that no modern craftsman could reproduce. The houses, their outlines blurred, their colors muted, have become part of the landscape, rather than evidences of an intruding civilization. It would be more truthful to call it seascape, for Campeche by its location is one with the sea. The Caribbean runs almost up to the doors of the houses and establishes an intimacy with the city that is uninterrupted and unchallenged.

The plaza is the heart of the town where Campechanos, young and old, take their nightly stroll. In the center a brightly colored fountain plays against a background of pensive *canciones* and the tangy salt breeze tempers the tropical night. Custom decrees the manner of the promenade. There is a circular movement of groups, formal as a dance pattern, reminiscent of a cotillion. The men, in the inner circle, saunter close to the fountain



Courtesy of Luisa Gregory

## LOOKING OUT TO SEA

The blue-green gulf fills the eye with its grandeur.

in a clockwise direction while the women drift casually counterclockwise around the periphery.

About the plaza are the shops of the master craftsmen. The skills of the past have been retained and the tradition of patient and painstaking quality has been preserved. Hammock makers proudly display the products of their looms, woven in broad bands of rose and white cotton thread and having an elasticity and sturdiness that is a tribute to the skill of the weavers. The workshops still produce gold filigree pendants and chains of exquisite artistry, rich in Mayan motifs. From the shells of huge tortoises hauled from the sea are fashioned fantastically beautiful ornaments inlaid with mother of

pearl. Bracelets, earrings, and necklaces bear witness to the creative artistry of the craftsmen; especially fine are the magnificent tortoise combs that are still a basic part of the costume of the Mayan girl. With some of the most precious woods in the world available here, the woodcarvers have become masters. Logwood, mahogany, and cedar are used in intricate inlays on massively carved furniture. Rosewood is fashioned into delicate jewel cases, and fine guitars meet the critical appraisal of a musically gifted people.

The economic center of the town is rooted in the market place with its age-old habits. In the cool early mornings the native men and women come in from the outlying districts to set up their stalls. To them it is important not only to sell but also to exchange confidences, and gossip, and discuss the news of the day with the townspeople. The market is a folkway, an integral part of their lives, multifaceted in its social and economic relationship with the community. Even if he were offered a fabulous price, the *paisano* would no more forego the activity of market day than he would fore-

go the celebration of a fiesta. His philosophy is a far cry from the stereotype of commercial industrialism; it has always been focused upon living. And, despite the insecurity and poverty of his life, he possesses a dignity and humanity that dwellers in northern lands often seem to have overlooked.

As you enter the market place, waves of color and smell fight for dominance. Piles of red snapper, pompano, and baby shark, caught that morning in the gulf, line the tables. The rich fruits of the tropics, papaya, mango, guava, and a variety of others foreign to the northern palate, are there in abundance. The drama of the market lies in its sudden contrasts. Upturned tortoises writhe grotesquely in their shells while sinister black vultures form a funereal ring around them. Brillo and Nescafé mingle with earthen water jars and Oaxaca ware. And the white embroidered *huipiles* of the Mayan women stand out in classic relief against the monotonies of prints and cotton calicoes.

Saturday is the grand market day in Campeche. It carries an air of festivity

#### CAMPECHE

Campeche, a colonial town on the Caribbean, is still redolent of the past.



Courtesy of Luisa Gregory



Courtesy of Luisa Gregory

## THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

The old palace stands on the plaza where townspeople, young and old, take their nightly stroll.

that is characterized by the profusion of color and variety. Although we came at seven in the morning in order to get the choice offerings, we were met by such a throng of marketgoers that we thought that we were at a fiesta. With a courage born of a lack of knowledge, we slung our baskets over our shoulders and waded in. Wandering from stall to stall, we received our first lesson in shrewd trading. Bargaining is part of the tradition of the market. A respected custom which tests the mental agility and confidence of the buyer and seller, it has a ritual and orthodoxy which must be observed. The face of the buyer must be impassive, his attitude non-committal. For once he shows his interest, he is lost. If he is indiscreet enough to be visibly enthusiastic he must pay the price for having forfeited the initiative. If, on the other hand, the sale is conducted with restraint and finesse the results are usually well worth the technique employed.

The market spills out in an overflow of pots and pans that is halted only by the

armed sentry guarding the Governor's palace. The palace, close to the market place, is the seat of Government, and very literally so, for every Campechano sits beneath its Spanish portals at one time or another, seeking shelter from the noonday tropical sun. The Governor's Palace also serves as the central bus depot for the local *camión* or *guagua*. And here are always to be seen little family groups, laden down with baskets of edibles and household supplies, comfortably chattering away the intervals between bus arrivals. Technically buses run on a half-hour schedule but the schedule is very elastic. Getting into and staying on the bus requires the agility of a mountain goat. For the aisles are perilously piled high with packages of all descriptions. Apparently there are no laws that limit the size and type of transportable articles. Piles of potatoes and onions find equal favor with huge twisted ox-horns and leaking pots of soup.

The bus leaves the square and turns into the long wide avenue that separates the

local dwellings from the sea. The unexpected sweep of the blue-green gulf spreads to the far horizon and the eye is filled with its grandeur. There is a quality of unreality about the suddenness with which the vista springs into view—on one side the commonplace of the town, on the other the magic beauty of an unending sea. On the right the wharf jets out to meet the white-sailed cargo ships steaming in from Veracruz, and running in amicable embrace with the sea is the promenade shaded by the tall, gracious coconut palms and the sturdy broad-leaved fig trees.

The long line of the promenade is broken by a huge mass of ruins which upon closer inspection emerges as a part of the old system of fortresses around the city. The Government has pressed it into service as a barracks for the use of the soldiers. The practicality of the people has saved it from the fate of uselessness and decay to which most historical monuments are doomed; the thatched roofs perched high above the turrets show a friendly disregard for the mustiness of antiquity.

The bus route takes us to the barrio of San Román, a suburb at the back of the city. Here an almost perfect fortress still stands. When the pirates were repulsed from Campeche they swung around to lay siege to the rich prize of San Román. The inhabitants were forced to build strong high walls with a wide moat to protect the citadel. The moat, reminiscent of Sir Walter Scott's tales, still encircles the fortress and although now dry and unused lends an air of romance to the gates of the barrio. A wide avenue of flamboyants glowing against the sky em-

phasizes this feeling. The houses of San Román lead away from the moat.

Over a hundred years ago Campeche was a flourishing port and ships from all over the world would put in for repairs. Because of the precious wood that is found in abundance here, it was a center for shipbuilding. Its famous dockyards built and repaired the vessels that roamed the seas from Europe to North and South America. Its world-famous sailors frequently were graduates of the illustrious Nautical Schools of Spain. The wealthy of Campeche lived in San Román. Their houses were famous for the beauty and the richness of their interiors. Even today, these homes contain the treasures brought from the shores of France. Empire mirrors, Sèvres vases, delicate porcelains, and giant breakfronts can be glimpsed through the high open windows, and the classic formality of marble floors and spacious rooms provides a graceful setting for the art of another age.

For the "art of another age" is the *leit-motif* of Campeche. Its low, flat-topped houses, its narrow winding streets and Churrigueresque churches; the ancient plazas lined with bougainvillea and flamboyants; the sunken hulls of pirate ships in the harbor; the quaint blue water carts and the shops of the craftsmen; all these serve to pull time backward and link it to the tempo of another era. It may be that the spread of industrialism will break the spell that binds Campeche to the habits and the customs of its forbears and to its moats and buttressed ramparts. Until then, it remains a slumbering paradise rich with "remembrance of things past."



THE CATHEDRAL AND NATIONAL PALACE, MANAGUA

Planes making a round-trip cross-country flight between the capital and the Atlantic coast return in six and a half hours.

## Air Excursion in Nicaragua

EDWARD HEILIGER

*Former Librarian, American Library in Managua*

"THIS next airport we're coming into is unique. First I have to take a deep dip to the left, then one to the right, hit the downhill landing strip at the very beginning, and then brake with everything I've got. We don't go into this place if there is more than a five-mile tailwind. It is a one-way airport. We always have to come in and go out the same way."

The pilot spoke these words with his hand cupped over his mouth in my direction. The noise in the cockpit was considerable. I ducked out of the co-pilot's seat and finding my way back to where ordinary people ought to be, I waited for the landing with my face glued to a window. Everything went as the pilot had said, but we were very close to the ground in



#### MOMOTOMBO AND LAKE MANAGUA

Lake Nicaragua and Lake Managua, which is smaller, look together somewhat like a figure 8.

the doing. We narrowly missed a cow that was feeding on the air strip. When I stepped out of the plane I was startled to find the propeller of the plane was only some ten feet from the embankment that ended the field.

If you asked a Nicaraguan which of two men was a Nicaraguan and which a Costa Rican, he would indicate the Nicaraguan as a "Nica" and the Costa Rican as a "Tico." When Nicaragua started its new airline a few months ago, people called it "La NICA." They hired Americans as local manager, operations manager, and pilots. The co-pilots are Nicaraguans. They bought American planes (Boeing B247's, Pratt and Whitney engines) and began service to all parts of Nicaragua.

My two years in Nicaragua have been spent along the populous Pacific side of the country. About two-thirds of the country is in the Atlantic watershed.

This area is largely unsettled and much of it is unexplored. I was surprised to learn that between breakfast and lunch on one day I could visit two gold mines, cross the country to Puerto Cabezas on the Atlantic coast, go south to Bluefields, and fly back across the entire country to Managua. So this is the story of a morning off in modern Nicaragua.

The *National Geographic* man who was down here several years ago aptly titled his photogenic report *Land of Lakes and Volcanoes*. As our plane swung around to set its course to the east and begin the morning's flight, it floated across the neck of a figure 8 formed by two large lakes. The one to the south, Lake Nicaragua, is the largest fresh-water lake between Lake Michigan and Lake Titicaca. It has the only fresh-water sharks in the world. Near the center of the lake is a high symmetrically shaped volcano called "Con-



cepción," which has been in active eruption for about a year.

The smaller northern lake, Lake Managua, was very blue. Momotombo, its large volcano, which rests on the north shore of the lake, was not smoking. Its cone projected sharply above the horizon, while to the west its smaller brother, Momotombito, barely touched the horizon.

Looking below, we saw the highway going back into Managua from the airport. The shadow of the plane travelled with us, growing smaller as we gained altitude. As we rounded the end of the lake, we passed over a house surrounded by a square of very tall palms. Our eyes followed the path of the highway as it left the lake's edge and climbed up into the hills, and we took a backward glance at Lake Managua and counted only three very small boats on the whole lake.

On clear days the view across the lake from Managua to the northeast is arresting. The distant hills have an unreal appearance, reminding one of the old illustrations in the Jules Verne books. When we passed over these hills, I noticed they were bare and red. A few minutes later the pilot pointed below and said that judging from the contours the land was rich in minerals. It is used as ranch land now. The farms of the country are largely concentrated near León and Chinandega.

Fifteen minutes after taking off we were flying in the cool air at 7,000 feet, traveling 140 miles per hour. The pilot offered me the co-pilot's seat. He pointed out a distant mountain peak which he used as a landmark on clear days. It rose directly behind Bonanza Mine and is called Cola Blanca (white tail). The pilot calls it Cathedral Mountain, because of its shape. We were heading about thirty degrees northeast. About twenty minutes after take-off he pointed out a large open area to the right which had the unusual virtue

of offering a place to land in case of trouble. The Nicaraguan co-pilot named a small village ahead "Muy Muy" (very very). Later, on the map, I spotted an even smaller town not far from there called "Muy Muy Viejo" (very very old) which is more satisfactory to the human mind that always seeks an answer.

We had started from the airport at 7:30 a. m., and shortly after 9 o'clock we crossed a large wooded valley. The Río Grande winds across the valley and gives the mahogany-hunters a way to get their lumber down to the Atlantic. Mountains were ahead. Smaller valleys to the north had clouds lying in them. We were flying at 7,300 feet and the pilot said he often went to nine and ten thousand feet to clear the 7,000-foot mountains ahead. The co-pilot pointed to a large escarpment to the right ahead, and declared that there was enough water power on that slope for electricity for all of Nicaragua, if proper development were made. He called it "Musun." I looked at it, and made reservations for his mental exuberance.

The pilot, a young fellow who had been brought up in St. Joseph, Missouri, and whose family now lives in Miami, told me something of the joy of flying in Central America. After five years of flying with TACA, he had gone to the States attracted by an offer to be a test-pilot for Boeing. After eight months of routine "boring" work testing B29's, he decided to join La NICA. Thinking now of that one-way airport at the Siuna gold mine, I can understand the charm of an aviator's life in this "new" country.

While he was regaling me with accounts of the boiling area in Lake Nicaragua, which was now occasionally throwing water 200 feet in the air (a year ago Jimmy Angel told me of a similar place in Lake Managua, but never of such strong action), we were losing sight of Concepción and

Momotombo. They were barely visible to the rear and the mine at Siuna was barely visible ahead. The time was 8:13. To the north a high distant range of mountains in Honduras could be seen. The Tuma, a branch of the famous Prinzipolka River, was below in a heavily wooded unsettled area. Our altitude was 6,100 and our speed 154. "... and I think these small earthquakes we have been having lately and Concepción's eruptions and this activity in the lake are all going to add up to something big. Perhaps we will have a new volcano come up out of the lake, or another big earthquake like that one in 1931."

At 8:24 the co-pilot pointed to a mountain about 25 degrees off our course to the north (we were still going about 30° northeast) and identified what he claimed was the highest mountain in Nicaragua.

The pilot pointed below and off to the west and south and said that an American corporation had recently taken over about 500 square miles of this unexplored country.

Suddenly, ahead and below us, a silvery winged shape approached. It was the TACA plane coming up from the mines to which we were going. Our pilot dipped his wings gently in greeting and in a matter of seconds they had passed. Below us was a curious sugar loaf formation with vertical strata. The mine was close at hand. After hearing about the difficulties of this airport, already recounted, I went back into the plane to wait.

The only way to get into Siuna is by air. A new airport is almost ready to open. The rock used to make the airstrip has gold in it, but not enough to make processing worthwhile. So, although the landing strip isn't solid gold, there is basis for a joke. Someone said it has been called the "Million dollar airport" because it cost so much to build it.

In five minutes some straw-hatted boys had taken the freight out of the nose of the plane and we were on our way to Bonanza. As we rose I could see the town and then the red-roofed mine buildings. The pilot pointed out the manager's house at my request. I had talked to the manager, Frank Cameron, in Managua the day before. He had said that they took one of the smaller buildings for their house so that a hospital and other facilities for everyone's use could have the larger places. From the air it looked far more pleasant than any other mining community I have ever seen.

The pilot said the Bonanza mine was twenty minutes ahead, but we spent only fourteen minutes from take-off to landing. It was over very mountainous country, and the air was rough. There is a trail connecting Siuna and Bonanza; I should like to know how long it takes to make the trip on horse or mule. We passed over a dam and power plant. The high mountain back of Bonanza makes the air current act to keep an approaching plane up, so we had to make an almost complete circle before landing. The airstrip was very narrow and short, but it was two-way. The red tin roof of the airport building had BONANZA in white letters on it. Outside was a pile of mill balls and a regiment of cyanide cans. A palm-thatched hut was on the other side of the landing strip.

"Forty minutes due east, and we shall be in Puerto Cabezas." Considering the winds we met, his 2-minute-off prediction was pretty good. We passed over the dirty grey town and the red-roofed mine buildings at Bonanza. When we had cleared the mountain, a great level wooded country that seemed endless spread out ahead of us and to the south and north. A semi-circle of clouds faced us. "Watch 'em grow. That's why it's rough." Off



Photograph CIAA

### A FARM IN NICARAGUA

The Pacific side of the country is populous, but the Atlantic watershed is largely unsettled.

to the right below was a Moravian mission. The pilot said he usually went north to Waspan on the Río Coco, but today we were going directly to Puerto Cabezas. Waspan is a rice-growing area and has a Catholic mission. I met some American sisters a few weeks ago who were on their way to Waspan. It seemed the end of the world to me then, and it still does.

This huge flat area below extends from Costa Rica to Guatemala. The possibilities for future settlement must be great. About 9:30 we noted the "Banana Farm." It is an abandoned United Fruit Company effort. The Panama rust forced the removal. We were flying 150 miles per hour at 3,650 feet altitude. The pilot was telling me something of the history of smuggling in the area north of us, par-

ticularly at Cape Gracias a Dios (thus named by Columbus). The sight of Puerto Cabezas ahead changed the conversation to the airport we were about to descend upon. It is the finest airport in Nicaragua and has 6,000 feet of runway. It was put in for U. S. Army antisubmarine patrol work, but was never used for that.

As we were coming down gradually, I made note that at 9:37 at 3,100 feet the outside temperature was 70 degrees. At 9:45 at 2,200 feet, the outside temperature was 78 degrees. On the ground, I only know it was hot.

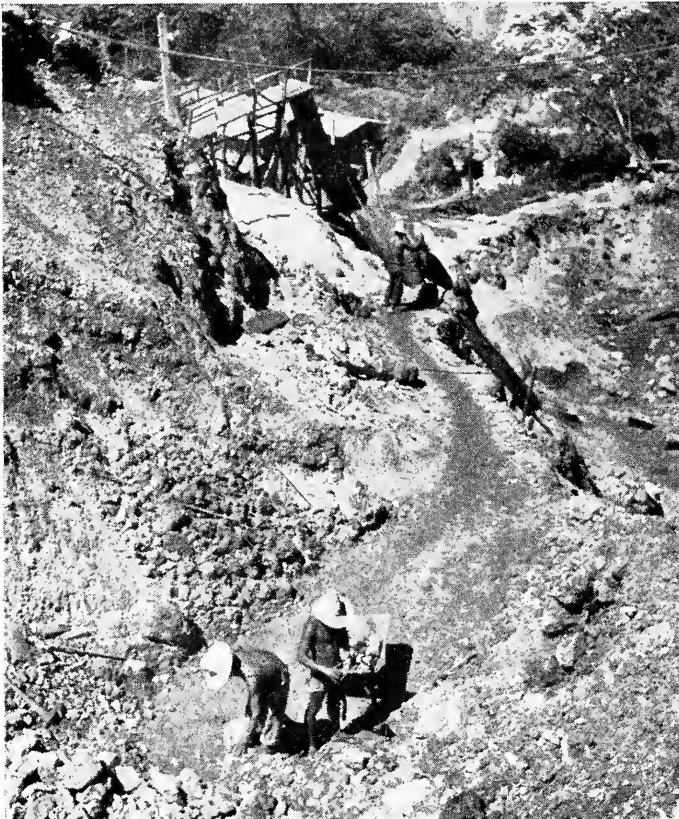
An exceptionally strong north wind made it impossible to use the main east-west runway. We tried, then we circled over the large savannah below, out over the ocean, and in over the town. The

beach looked fine, but no one was swimming. I was standing behind the pilot and co-pilot. The former seemed worried about the landing and told me to brace myself well. The shaking we got from that wind when landing was more than I expected, though, and I was thrown off my feet. It was 9:58, exactly two and a half hours after the take-off in Managua.

The airport men who hurried around the plane unloading baggage, etc., were negroes, not Indians as in Managua. They all spoke both Spanish and English. English is the dominant language along the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. The manager of the airport is a negro who graduated from a Y.M.C.A. school in Cleveland. He told me about the oil drilling going on north of Puerto Cabezas and

what it might mean to the city, and about the richness of the country up the Prinzapolka River. Another man that I talked to had more pessimistic views: "The land around here is no good. Those army barracks have never been used. That old barracks over there was used by the Marines."

The NICA plane that left Managua when we did, but was coming via Bluefields, was to take me on its return trip. It arrived at 11:10. The operations manager, Wynn, was at the controls. He used the main strip and managed to land, but he admitted it was very difficult. About 600 pounds of air freight for Siuna was transferred to the plane I had come in on and two passengers boarded the plane, which started back for Managua via the



Photograph CIAA

#### SURFACE GOLD MINING

Air transport has greatly stimulated the working of Nicaragua's rich gold deposits.



AIR VIEW OF NICARAGUA

mines as we had come. The plane was gassed up by a new-type gas pump that lifted some 35 gallons a minute from the large cans below into the gas tank. The pump was light and required no priming. Wynn was charmed with it.

We took off into the wind on the short runway and settled before the wind, which now became a help instead of a hindrance. We flew over the ocean, watching the sandy palm-lined beach. Every few minutes we would see a palm-thatched village with a dozen or so widely separated houses. The villages were cleaned of brush and had about as many tall palms as houses. The arms of the sea made many lagoons, islands, and bays.

We passed three large river openings on the way down and each had its town. After the take-off at 11:41, we passed the Cuculaya River at 11:58, the Grande at 12:15, and the Escondido at 12:32. These rivers stretch away into the seemingly endless wooded area. From about 12:17 to 12:28 we went the length of a large bay called Laguna de las Perlas (Lagoon of the Pearls).

Favored by the wind, we made this 148 miles to Bluefields in 59 minutes. Going up a few hours before, the trip had taken an hour and twenty minutes. The airfield in Bluefields is the poorest at any of the large ports in Nicaragua. It is downhill and short. It is necessary to hit the

strip at the beginning and brake hard. I had hoped to hear some of the famous Bluefields English, but we stayed only a few minutes. What little I had heard in Managua from Bluefields visitors had quite a twang and a limited vocabulary. Rising over the town, we saw that the houses had yards rather than patios, and very little seemed to be going on anywhere. The rusty corrugated roofs and the lack of good beach were made up for, from my bird's-eye view, by the quantity of beautiful green grass around the houses.

The Escondido River, which we followed after leaving Bluefields, is part of a new main artery of traffic that is being established across Nicaragua. At Rama, where the river divides into two branches, the road begins, and it goes through to Managua. We covered the stretch from Bluefields to Rama in twenty minutes, but saw only three boats (one flatboat and two canoes). By boat it takes some five hours at least, I am told. The "Rama Road" looms large in the country's thinking and is just about ready to do its work. The country between Bluefields and Rama looked like jungle. Only a few clearings were cut out here and there, mostly along the river. Because of the thick verdure, much of the country looked like a close-packed head of cauliflower, only green in color.

Whenever we passed over a small cloud, I noticed that we caused a rainbow-like circle to appear on the cloud. The shadow of the plane was always in the center of the circle.

Soon after we left Rama the mountains came into view, with Concepción in the distance. The northern branch of the river grew small. I became intent on timing the eruptions of Concepción. They came about every seven minutes. Several months ago, when I was timing it from a place near Rivas, the giant puffs came every three minutes. Early this year, when my wife flew over the volcano with Jimmy Angel, a huge rock apparently about the size of a small house was blown high into the sky near them.

As we neared Lake Nicaragua, at a point not far from Concepción, towns began to appear. The largest of them was Juigalpa with its gridiron pattern of tile roofs. We reached the lake flying at 6,000 feet, and Momotombo showed directly ahead of us. The Pacific Ocean was clearly visible. We left the lake before going far enough around to fly over Granada. After a last look at Concepción as it gave another puff, we began to lose altitude. The shadow of the plane was growing larger as we passed over the house with the square of tall palms. We hit the ground at 1:59, six and one-half hours from coast to coast and back.

This airline is no doubt a sample of many that are opening up land-locked areas in Latin America. The men that are operating them are doing pioneer work of the first importance. Tourists from the States will find them useful in visiting out-of-the-way spots that are often much more interesting than those on the traditional "tour" routes.

# Streamlined English

## The Teaching of English to Students from Latin America in the English Language Institute of the University of Michigan

A. D. THIESSEN

*Librarian, Provisional International Civil Aviation Organization*

BECAUSE of the great advances in teaching and research in the United States of America during the last few decades, and because also of the great increase in prestige arising from American participation in the war against the Axis powers, many more students than ever before have begun coming to American universities. Many of these students are coming from the Latin American countries. They enter every faculty and every profession, from that of Library Administration to Public Health, in an effort to acquire a knowledge of United States methods and later to introduce them in their native countries.

American universities demand that foreign students shall have a knowledge of English sufficient to enable them to profit

from attendance at lectures, and most of the students that come have about one year's training in English of the usual academic standard. Many teachers felt that this was inadequate, and as these students are here either on scholarships or under their own steam—in any case, are spending or having much money spent on them—they urged that something be done to increase the English ability of these visitors.

After consultation with the State Department at Washington in 1938, members of the English Department of the University of Michigan agreed to receive students from foreign countries, particularly from Latin America, for a two months' intensive course in English language instruction.

### DR. CHARLES C. FRIES

Dr. Fries is noted for remarkable principles of teaching English to foreign students.



Courtesy of the University of Michigan

Dr. Charles C. Fries, a professor of English in the University of Michigan, has been from the beginning the dynamo charging this system, and under his direction a large and able staff of teachers has been recruited and trained to develop and apply some of the quite remarkable principles of language teaching inspired by him. Of course, Dr. Fries has his experience as editor of the *Early Modern English Dictionary* and the researches of the Linguistic Institute to support him in his language work, but his originality and skill, and the enthusiasm he inspires in both students and teachers, are some of the strongest factors making for the undoubted success of this experiment.

Perhaps the next greatest reason for the success of the English Language Institute of the University of Michigan is the fact that for two months all the language resources of Dr. Fries and his staff are combined with the will and energy of the Latin American students in a full-time effort to acquire a working knowledge of English. The University has provided an "English House" for its foreign visitors, and at all times, particularly at meal-times, there is a large number of persons on hand to speak English well in an endeavor to translate American living into English language experience.

Another factor was Dr. Fries's discovery that there is a shortest distance between two points, if you know what the two points are. In this instance the two points are: *a*, the language habits of Spanish-speaking persons, and *b*, the language habits of English-speaking persons. These have never been carefully scrutinized before. As a result of this study a large body of words and expressions, in English, that resemble words and expressions already used by the visitors in their own language, was gathered. Difficulties arising from unequal analogy were

anticipated and guarded against, by avoiding the use of certain expressions until they had been prepared for.

Older methods were tried and adapted, not rejected. Grammar is still being taught, but only the kind that matters. Philosophical subtleties and niceties have no place in a curriculum that aims at "getting there" without delay. Word order was found to be a more important subject of attention than the difference between the predicate nominative and the predicate adjective. Instead of wasting the pupils' time with such words as "Am-oamasamatamamusamatisamant," from which can be extracted the language of love if one knows how, it was found more useful to teach whole sentences like the following: "I like you very much," indicating carefully the rise and fall of the voice, and the delicate crescendo and diminuendo in various parts of such a sentence. Grasping the voice or tone pattern of English was found to be more important in quick apprehension of meaning than an exact knowledge of sentence structure. The caress in the voice, as it differs in English and Spanish, has to be learned, as well as the phrasing.

It has long been known that tone pattern and rhythm play an important part in conveying meaning; but most people have felt that these are instinctive, and, therefore, more or less the same in all languages. A careful study of these tone patterns in both English and Spanish was made at Ann Arbor, and as a result of these investigations a limited number of them was selected from English for use in language drill. The effect, both in helping the Latin Americans to understand English and in helping them to make themselves understood, was remarkable. However, a very surprising phenomenon has been observed in students who take the two months' course and then spend two years





Courtesy of the University of Michigan

### JAMES B. ANGELL HALL

Since 1938 more than 600 Latin Americans have been trained in the two months' intensive English course at the University of Michigan.

in the United States in pursuit of their course of study. A number of these students come to Ann Arbor again just before returning to their own country, and, from language tests applied at that time, it has been found that while the students have not lost any of the intonation patterns taught them two years ago, they have *not* acquired any new ones, even though their command of English may have increased very greatly.

The old academic grammar and translation method has long been known to be slow. The direct method, while plunging straight into the stream of spoken language, produces results only partially sat-

isfactory. With it, after the first thrills, progress becomes laborious and unsure. Basic English, too, offers much that at first is very valuable. Its word list of 800 to 850 units is well chosen; and the introduction of "operators," words that mean little in themselves, but are necessary to express an action, was a great contribution. But confinement to such a list is restricting and also misleading. The innocent-looking word "set," for example, is one of the 800, but upon investigation it is found to have at least 174 distinct meanings of its own. Very soon the English-aspirant discovers this disconcerting fact and begins to make mental multiplication of 800 by numbers

all the way up to 174, and suspects that he has been "gypped."

In Michigan the direct method is used, combined with other methods. The composite method may be called the oral method. The pupils learn by speaking and being spoken to. They are told the Spanish equivalents of English words and sentences, if necessary to save time; and there are lessons in grammar and a certain amount of translation, although oral composition in English is preferred to translation. The subject content of the course has been carefully compiled to provide English suited to the immediate mental environment of the students whose origin and aim are known. Well-planned drills emphasize points that carefully elaborated tests have found to be important. Each student has the benefit of being taught by several teachers, and therefore of hearing a variety of English speech; and, of course, the colloquial approach, rather than the bookish, is constantly remembered.

One point of drill arises from the well known fact that in Spanish there are only five vowel sounds. English has eleven and French as many as nineteen. It is obvious that the shortest distance between French and English is considerably different from that between Spanish and English. A person accustomed to making only five vowel sounds will pronounce them carelessly, allowing himself wide latitude and lack of precision. In such a language the little letter *i* will represent a sound something like English *ee*, and a Latin American, speaking, as he thinks, very carefully, will pronounce the English word *live* as *leev*, while on another occasion, when a similar word occurs he might pronounce *leave* as *liv*. In his own language the distinction is not significant. Naturally, a great deal of attention is paid to drill in the pronunciation of vowel

sounds. At first many of the students are not even aware of a difference in sounds the distinction of which seems vital to an English ear. There is a long distance between some of these points.

The application of scientific method in the study and teaching of language is of recent origin, and American teachers have reason to be proud of their war time achievement, when large numbers of Americans were trained quickly in the languages of many Axis countries to the specific end of winning an important war quickly. The Linguistic Society of America deserves the praise that has been accorded its contribution to the war effort; but to Dr. Charles C. Fries and his loyal and energetic staff goes the credit for applying new and original methods to an old but persistent problem.

Since 1938 more than 600 persons from the Latin American countries have been trained in the two months' course at the University of Michigan. A set of textbooks has been written for the especial benefit of speakers of Spanish and Portuguese origin. Among the students who have come to Ann Arbor, Michigan, have been high ranking civil servants, heads of university and government departments, distinguished teachers and doctors, cabinet ministers, and, perhaps, almost as important as these known men and women, there are those other persons of great promise who have yet to make their mark and appear likely to do so. All of these persons receive the same democratic attention and undergo the same drills in vocabulary building, pronunciation, intonation and grammar; are subjected to the same language tests; and, of course, they profit to the full extent of their ability, having the benefit of a carefully planned program that eliminates, as only scientific method can, the old blind alleys, and chooses the short-cuts.

# William V. Griffin Retires from Service

WILLIAM V. GRIFFIN, Chief Clerk, who began his work for the newly organized Pan American Union in 1890, as a boy of fifteen, retired at the end of 1945 after 55 years of active service. On December 29 the staff of the Pan American Union assembled in the office of the Director General to do honor to Mr. Griffin and to join in the good wishes which Dr. Rowe voiced in the following words:

We have gathered here to-day to express our farewells and our warm felicitations to our friend and fellow-worker William V. Griffin, Chief Clerk of the Pan American Union, who is retiring after 55 years of loyal service to this institution.

Mr. Griffin came to the Pan American Union a few months after it was created by the First International American Conference. Thus it has been his privilege to accompany the Union from its earliest beginnings and through the years in which it has been achieving the important position it now occupies in the concert of the American nations. Few indeed are the men who have had the honor of serving so long and so faithfully an institution destined to draw together the peoples of a whole continent.

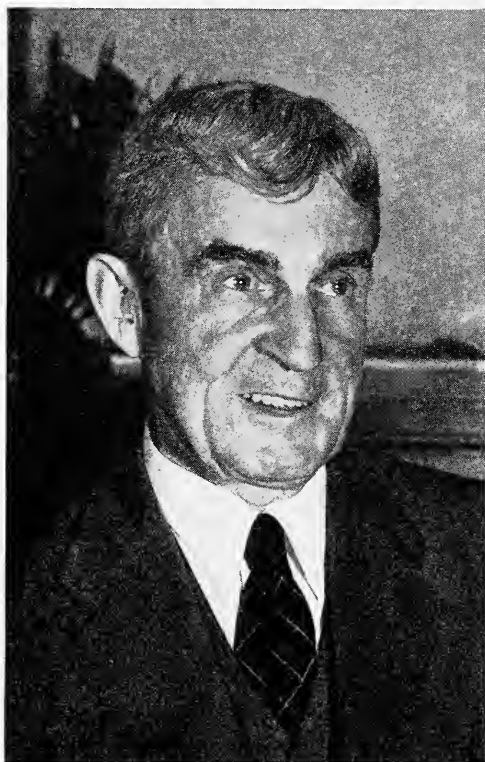
Mr. Griffin:

As you retire to enjoy the well-earned rest to which all good workers are entitled, we wish you to know that with you go our heartfelt wishes for your personal happiness in the years to come.

At the same time it gives me great pleasure to place in your hands this gift,<sup>1</sup> which we hope will bring you many hours of enjoyment, and which carries with it the assurance of our deep regard for you.

After a few words from the Assistant Director, Dr. Pedro de Alba, the company adjourned to the Gallery of the Heroes, where Mr. Griffin was guest of honor at a luncheon tendered by the members of the staff.

<sup>1</sup> A complete set of golf clubs.



The Governing Board of the Pan American Union passed the following resolution at its meeting on January 9, 1946:

WHEREAS, Mr. William V. Griffin on December 31st last retired as Chief Clerk of the Pan American Union after more than fifty years of loyal and devoted service to the organization, and

WHEREAS, during his long career covering the entire period of the institution, Mr. Griffin showed unswerving loyalty and rendered outstanding service to the Pan American Union,

The Governing Board of the Pan American Union

RESOLVES:

1. To extend to Mr. Griffin the warm thanks and deep appreciation of the Board for his many years of faithful service and for the invaluable

contributions he has rendered, both to the institution and to the cause of Pan Americanism.

2. To place this resolution on the minutes of the Board, and send a copy thereof to Mr. Griffin.

All the members of the Pan American Union staff, new and old, regretted Mr. Griffin's departure from their daily life.

His uprightness and devotion to duty, his kindly interest in every one, his ready wit, and especially his helpfulness in advancing young people who, like himself, entered the staff in a minor capacity, left memories pleasant to recall and an example worthy of being followed.



## Women of the Americas

### Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

#### *The Chairman's activities*

SRTA. Minerva Bernardino, the chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, attended the first Assembly of the United Nations in London as a delegate of her country, the Dominican Republic. She was one of the few women to be honored by such an appointment. This is the third international conference that Srta. Bernardino has attended in the same capacity within the last year.

Before going to London, Srta. Bernardino made a visit to her native country, where she was fêted by a number of women's organizations. At a ceremony that took place in the University, she created an annual prize in memory of her sister, Dr. Consuelo Bernardino, which will give financial assistance to the best woman student of gynecology.

#### *Argentina*

In 1945 several groups of Argentine women were formed for the purpose of instructing women on the evolution of social and political principles designed to promote

world organization. Among these are the Centro Femenino de Cultura Cívica and the Centro de Educación Cívica de la Mujer. These centers offered a series of lectures by outstanding authorities who, after their talks, answered questions from the audience. Among the topics discussed were the Argentine constitution, democracy, international conferences, women in the postwar world, and the social, political, and legal status of Argentine women. Such lectures have been largely attended, not only in Buenos Aires, but also in other cities, reports the Argentine member of the Commission.

#### *Bolivia*

The Bolivian Embassy in Washington has informed the Inter-American Commission of Women that among the important changes which have been introduced into the Bolivian constitution are some that improve the legal status of women. Among these are the right to vote and hold office in municipalities, the juridical equality of husband and wife, a family subsidy based on the number of children, the principal

of investigation of paternity, and the legal equality of legitimate and illegitimate children.

### *Brazil*

The Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was the scene of a meeting several months ago attended by the Minister, by Dr. Osorio Dutra, Chief of the Division of Intellectual Cooperation, by Professor Pedro Calmón, a member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters, and by several women who have long been known for their leadership in the Brazilian feminist movement. The Minister of Foreign Affairs stated that Brazil had every intention of giving women representation in the diplomatic services and in the various government departments.

Dr. Pedro Calmón reviewed the steps taken in favor of women at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace held last year in Mexico City and made special mention of the part played by the Brazilian delegation in connection with the Inter-American Commission of Women and the inter-American system.

A committee which will be advisory to Srta. Leontina Licinio Cardoso, the Brazilian member of the Commission, was formed. It consists of Dr. Bertha Lutz, Dr. Maria Lourdes Pinto Ribeiro, Dr. Orminda Bastos, Sra. Jerónima Mesquita, Sra. Maria Eugenia Celso, Sra. América Xavier da Silveira, Sra. Zuleika Lintz (a consul), and Srta. Cora Cobo and will meet in the Foreign Office.

### *Cuba*

Cuba was represented at the International Congress of Women held in Paris last November by five delegates appointed by the government: Nila Ortega, labor representative; Uldarica Mañas of the Lyceum (a well known club); Mercedes Alemán, a lawyer; Herminia del Portal, a journalist; and Lola Soldevilla de Mujals, a government representative.

### *Dominican Republic*

Last December there was held at Santiago de los Caballeros in the Dominican Republic the Second Congress of Dominican Women. This took place three years after women in that country entered upon the full exercise of their political rights. It was opened by the President's wife, Sra. María Martínez de Trujillo. Srta. Minerva Bernardino, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, and Sra. Amalia C. de Castillo Ledón, the Mexican member of the Commission, who were visiting the Dominican Republic, were elected honorary presidents of the Congress.

A number of resolutions were passed. Congratulations were sent to Cordell Hull and to Gabriela Mistral, to whom the Nobel Peace Prize and Prize for Literature were awarded last year.

### *Panama*

In Panama City the National Union of Women has opened some evening courses in adult education.

# *Pan American Union* NOTES

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

### *Approaching conferences*

THE Government of Colombia has chosen December of this year as the time for the meeting in Bogotá of the Ninth International Conference of American States. In accordance with custom, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union has appointed a committee of its members to draft a program and the regulations for this important assembly.

The Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security will take place at Rio de Janeiro at a date still to be fixed. This conference will implement a provision of the Act of Chapultepec by drawing up a treaty against aggression by an American or non-American nation against the peace and security of an American republic.

June 1, 1946 is the date set by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union for the convening of the Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright Protection. It will meet at Washington. It is hoped to reconcile the various provisions in existing instruments on this subject, to add others applicable to modern conditions, and to incorporate the results in an inter-American convention.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Third Pan American Conference of Agriculture, the Board has recommended that an Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources meet at Washington in June of next year. The

Government of the United States will issue the invitations.

### *The Inter-American Economical and Social Council*

The following committees of the Council have been appointed:

#### COMMITTEE I—PRODUCTION

Delegates of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Guatemala.

#### COMMITTEE II—COMMERCE

Delegates of Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and the United States.

#### COMMITTEE III—TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

Delegates of Brazil, Haiti, Panama, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

#### COMMITTEE IV—FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CREDITS

Delegates of Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua.

#### COMMITTEE V—SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND LABOR

Delegates of Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

#### COMMITTEE VI—COORDINATION AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTER-AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Delegates of Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Venezuela.

#### COMMITTEE VII—ADMINISTRATION

Delegates of Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and the Dominican Republic.

#### COMMITTEE VIII—SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENEMY PROPERTY

Delegates of Brazil, Chile, Haiti, Mexico, and the United States.

Frequent meetings of the committees have been held.

# The Americas and the War

THIS LIST was begun in the April 1942 number of the BULLETIN, and is now concluded as of V-J Day, September 2, 1945.

## BOLIVIA

48a. April 10, 1945. Presidential Decree requiring the declaration of stocks of crude, semi-manufactured, or manufactured rubber, providing that shipping permits must be obtained by holders of such stocks for their transportation from

one part of the country to another, and making other pertinent provisions. (*Boletín Comercial*, La Paz, October 15, 1945.)

## COLOMBIA

167a. July 31, 1945. Resolution No. 489, National Price Control Office, extending the authority of the National Price Control Office over rents (see Colombia 90f, Bulletin, March and April 1944) to cities of 5,000 or more inhabitants. (*Diario Oficial*, September 24, 1945.)



# Pan American News

## *Message of the President of Bolivia*

ON AUGUST 6, 1945, President Gualberto Villarroel of Bolivia delivered a state-of-the-nation message to Congress, covering Government activities during the preceding year.

In outlining Bolivia's foreign relations during this period, President Villarroel stressed the country's participation in the various international conferences, and its close cooperation with the other American republics and with the United Nations. An important agreement was signed with Argentina on communications and oil, and the demarcation of the Bolivian-Argentine and the Bolivian-Paraguayan

frontiers was brought to virtual completion. Steps were taken toward the resumption of diplomatic relations with Italy, and on April 18, 1945, diplomatic relations were opened with Russia.

Turning to domestic affairs, the President spoke at length on the activities of the Ministry of National Economy. He pointed out this Ministry's attempts to alleviate the commercial difficulties, caused by the war, by lightening internal trade restrictions, cooperating in the distribution of imported goods, and providing credit to assist in the purchase of vital commodities. In 1944 exports amounted to \$77,554,000 (U. S. cy.), and imports to \$42,076,000, giving a favorable balance of \$35,478,000.

Tin exports in the first half of 1945 amounted to 21,496 tons as compared with the 17,505 tons exported during the same period in 1944. However, the production of wolfram, antimony, lead, zinc, and sulphur decreased during the first half of 1945.

In spite of the difficulties in obtaining necessary equipment, petroleum production reached 6,174,000 gallons during the first six months of 1945—a slight increase over the amount produced in the corresponding period in 1944.

The Mining Bank extended its activities favoring the development of small-scale mining. Small mining enterprises exported 3,200 tons of tin in 1943, and increased the amount to 3,573 tons in 1944. The Registry of Mines listed 8,276 concessions for the year, covering over 1,000,000 acres. Concessions for gold-bearing deposits numbered 755.

The Government continued its efforts to stimulate and protect national industry, guaranteeing to manufacturers the sale of their products at remunerative prices. Registered industrial establishments now total 1,232, and the value of industrial production rose from 881,701,000 bolivianos in 1943 to 1,009,057,000 bolivianos in 1944. (A boliviano equals approximately \$.024 U. S. cy.) New industries established during 1944 included plants manufacturing edible oils, rubber goods, insecticides, plastic articles, and wooden toys.

The National Quinine Factory was reorganized, and production between August 1944 and June 1945 amounted to 2,205 pounds, valued at \$60,000.

In reviewing the work of the Ministry of Agriculture and Colonization, the President called attention to its fruitful research program and to the agricultural scholarships granted for study in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico. The

Service of Agricultural Development continued its work of assisting farmers by facilitating the acquisition at cost of farm machinery, and providing technical advice, seeds, fertilizers, fungicides, and agricultural tools. The National Registry of Lands has made 2,423 concessions of land, covering over 57,394,000 acres.

Serious difficulties in Argentine transportation facilities resulted in the shipping to Bolivia during 1944 of only 48,074 tons of wheat out of an expected 82,680 tons. This situation was somewhat alleviated by the United States Government, which sent 18,578 tons at the same price as Argentine wheat.

In regard to the activities of the Ministry of Finance, President Villarroel stated that treasury receipts during 1944 amounted to 1,277,167,000 bolivianos, and expenditures to 1,275,185,000 bolivianos, leaving a favorable balance of 1,982,000 bolivianos. The 1945 budget was balanced at approximately 1,252,908,000 bolivianos. The President called attention to the inclusion in this budget of 46,430,000 bolivianos for roads, 13,869,500 bolivianos for the support of orphans and other minors, and 70,668,000 bolivianos for pensions for the aged and the infirm, as well as 25,108,000 bolivianos for subsidies for Pension Banks.

Between December 31, 1943 and June 30, 1945, the internal debt was reduced from 739,235,000 bolivianos to 728,490,000 bolivianos. During the same period the external debt decreased from 2,547,231,000 bolivianos to 2,541,678,000 bolivianos. Bolivia had over 29 million dollars of gold and exchange in its Central Bank on June 30, 1945—an increase of more than 10 million dollars over the figure for December 31, 1943.

In spite of the Government's action in limiting state or individual credits in the Central Bank to the amount held on



December 31, 1943, the circulating medium rose from 1,958,000,000 bolivianos on June 30, 1944, to 2,290,000,000 bolivianos on June 30, 1945. This was largely a result of greater purchases of bills of exchange from exporters. In order to decrease these purchases of bills of exchange, the amount of cash holdings required of commercial banks was increased.

The cost-of-living index increased 7 percent between December 1943 and May 1945—a moderate rise in comparison with that which took place in some of the other American republics.

The President emphasized particularly the work of the Ministry of Labor, Health, and Social Welfare. He pointed out that during the period being reviewed labor unions were stimulated, and national congresses of miners and railroad workers were held, with Government support. Employment offices and free legal services for workers were established in various parts of the country. The Second Workmen's Housing Unit, consisting of 50 houses, each costing only 48,000 bolivianos (about \$1,152), was completed, and several others are in the process of construction.

The remodelled and modernized Oruro Hospital was opened in September 1944, and the hospitals at Capinota, Totora, and Challapata have been virtually completed. The Busch Hospital at Trinidad is also nearly ready for occupancy, and construction is being carried on in many other hospitals throughout the country.

The General Office of Maternity and Social Assistance was created during the period covered by the message, and the first dispensary for mothers and children was set up in Copacabana. Plans have been made for the immediate establishment of others in various parts of the country. Fifty-five students, representing

every department in the republic, are studying nursing on Government scholarships.

In July 1945, 33 contracts were signed with the Inter-American Cooperative Public Health Service, providing for various health services to be carried on with funds appropriated by the United States and Bolivian Governments.

Turning to the Ministry of Public Works and Communications, the President showed that considerable progress had been made in spite of wartime handicaps. A total of 130 miles of roads was completed between August 1944 and August 1945, including the important 26-mile highway between Oruro and Independencia. The mixed Argentine-Bolivian Road Commission began studies in August 1944 on the international highway, Orán-Tarija-Potosí. Important hydroelectric projects are under construction in Sucre, Cochabamba, and Tarija.

Railway construction was advanced on the Vila Vila-Santa Cruz, the Sucre-Camiri, and the Corumbá-Santa Cruz lines. The mixed Bolivian-Brazilian Commission carried on studies for the Cochabamba-Samaipata-Santa Cruz railway.

In reporting on the work of the Ministry of Education, Fine Arts, and Indian Affairs, the President spoke first of the agreement signed with the American Educational Foundation providing for a program of educational cooperation between Bolivia and the United States.

The amount destined for educational purposes in the 1945 budget was 193,521,000 bolivianos, or 15.5 percent of the total. This represents an increase of 14.4 percent over the amount spent for education in 1944.

A complete reorganization of the country's educational system is being studied, and projected general regulations have been prepared to cover education in

general, primary education, secondary education, teaching certificates, and educational conventions; in addition, new plans are being formulated for literacy campaigns, and advanced pedagogical courses.

New schools for Indians have been established throughout the republic, and during the first part of 1945, 326 such schools were founded by the Indians themselves, with their own resources. A General Cooperative Plan on Indian Education submitted by the Government of Peru was studied and returned to Peru with the suggested modifications of the Bolivian Ministry of Education, Fine Arts, and Indian affairs. (See p. 233.) In addition to its educational provisions, this plan includes measures for the development of agriculture and the general improvement of rural living conditions.

The newly-founded Department of Culture, created to coordinate the Government's cultural activities, prepared various cultural extension courses for workers and secondary school students, and organized a National Symphony Orchestra.

### *Message of the President of Cuba*

On September 17, 1945, President Ramón Grau San Martín, who took office on October 10, 1944, submitted to the opening session of the Cuban Congress a report on the first year of his administration. The message covered the executive branch of government in great detail; certain sections of it, relating especially to national economy and progress, are presented here in condensed form.

Since the Cuban Cabinet includes no Minister of Economy, it devolves upon the Treasury Department to handle not only the financial and credit operations of the nation but also the development of the Government's general economic plans

for the stimulation of production and the utilization of national resources. Two definite steps were taken during the year under consideration to advance industrialization: the waiver of import and consular duties and fees on industrial machinery and equipment destined for the development of new industries, for public services, and public works; and a system of broad tax exemptions for new industries during their initial years of operation. These measures are aimed at helping to stimulate enterprise and private initiative and channeling balances accumulated during the war years toward undertakings that will in the long run be of benefit to the entire national economy. Seeking at the same time to coordinate industrial and agricultural development, the Government made the tax exemptions for new industries proportionate to the amount of Cuban raw materials used by the industries. This in turn is expected to lead to increased production of native raw materials and the introduction of new ones, thus achieving eventually a more diversified agriculture to go hand in hand with the new industrialization.

As for national finance, tax collections started out well in 1945. In the first quarter of the year receipts were 12 percent above collections for the same period in 1944. Customs receipts showed an 11.3 percent increase; land taxes increased 33 percent; and the same tendency toward marked increases was shown in national lottery receipts, the tax levied on financial operations, the cement tax, the income and luxury taxes levied in 1942 as a war measure for increasing federal income, and in other miscellaneous special funds. The President reported that a tax reform plan is under study and that a reform would soon be submitted to the consideration of Congress. On June 30, 1945, the national treasury had a balance of 39,332,000 pesos.

The nation's total debt as of June 30, 1945, was 104,706,000 pesos (the Cuban peso is equal to the U. S. dollar), of which 97,488,600 pesos represented foreign debt and the remainder domestic debt. Debt amortization during the first six months of 1945 was 2,915,700 pesos, and on July 15, 1945, bonds amounting to 1,016,700 pesos were redeemed.

Comparing the first six months of the years 1943, 1944, and 1945, the President presented figures showing that Cuba's foreign trade balance was favorable in each of the corresponding periods. In 1945 exports were valued at 255,760,000 pesos and imports at 109,736,000 pesos, which gave a trade balance 208 percent above 1943 and 22 percent above 1944 for the same six-month period. On the basis of these figures, the President forecast that the trade balance for the full year 1945 would reach an unprecedented level. Its increase was due basically to two factors: (1) an increase in exports, particularly sugar and tobacco products; and (2) the restrictions to which exports were subject in Cuba's principal supply markets. The United States was the main market for Cuban goods, having absorbed 76.9 percent of total Cuban exports in the first half of 1945. However, trade with European markets began to improve in 1945, after having fallen to an extremely low point during the war. In the first half of 1943 European markets took 8.5 percent of Cuba's exports; in 1944, 7.0 percent; and in 1945, 14.8 percent, England and the Soviet Union being the principal purchasers. Imports during the first half of 1945 likewise showed an increase in both value and quantity. The total value was 109,736,000 pesos, 22 percent above the same period for 1943 and 11 percent above 1944. Eighty-one percent of imports came from the United States, with Mexico, Argentina, the United Kingdom, and In-

dia supplying a high percentage of the remainder.

The Office of Price Regulation and Supply, a war agency established in May 1942, effectively carried on its task of controlling prices, use, and distribution of articles of prime necessity, said the President, in order to prevent scarcities and an undue increase in the cost of living. The industrial section of the office, concerned with regulating trade in construction materials, had a hard job to do in supplying materials to rebuild and to repair damage done by the hurricane that struck the island in October 1944. Through the efforts of that office, all needed quantities of materials such as building paper, nails, tubing, wire, etc., were made available, in spite of shortages, for use in the afflicted areas.

The President reported that the Ministry of Agriculture, faced not only with the general difficulties resulting from the war but also with one of the gravest droughts in Cuba's history, nevertheless succeeded in reducing the effects of these adverse factors to such a minimum that a most optimistic outlook could be entertained for the near future. Greater agricultural and livestock production was the key note of the Government's general plan. No effort was spared to see that farmers obtained fuel and other necessary materials; farm prices were fixed for many products; fertilizers were widely distributed; and distribution of seeds was made as follows: rice, 1,200,000 pounds; corn, 500,000 pounds; yams, 600,000 pounds; and sweet potatoes, 12,750,000 tubers.

Rice production increased notably in 1945 despite the drought, but the fact that 75 percent of national rice requirements must still be imported makes necessary still more intensive measures to develop domestic production. Peanuts are being developed on a trial basis among small farmers, tenant farmers, and farm owners

in the province of Pinar del Río. Recognizing that a wider use of farm machinery is fundamental to agricultural progress, the President noted that the Ministry of Agriculture is working to aid both large and small farmers in that respect. The Government has taken steps to acquire as soon as possible 130 tractors of various types, as well as a quantity of other farm machinery, to be made available to farmers, especially small farmers, under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, at a cost limited to maintenance and operational expenses.

Nor was the stock breeding industry neglected, its development being a part of the general plan for improved production. A cattle census taken in 1944 showed a total of 3,885,141 head, a decrease of 1,464,653 or 27 percent from the total recorded in the 1940 census. As a step toward increased production, a presidential decree prohibited as of September 30, 1945, the slaughter of bulls for public consumption. Campaigns against livestock diseases were unremitting, and outbreaks in various parts of the country were effectively brought under control in 1944-45 by the Veterinary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture. These and similar measures are expected to help in bringing the livestock industry back to former levels.

A reforestation plan was also carried on, a total of 191,928 young trees having been distributed in 1944-45 by government nurseries.

Figures made available by the Office of Forests, Mines, and Waters showed that in the first six months of 1945, Cuba produced 68,107 tons of copper, of which 13,768 tons were exported. Chromium exports totaled 25,514 tons and manganese 60,150 tons. Naphtha extracted from the Motembo deposits totaled 1,071,795 gallons, and at Jarahueca 1,303,068 gallons of petroleum were produced.

In the field of public education, the President reported that a new study plan for rural schools was in preparation, adjusted to national standards and aims but in harmony with local needs. When completed it will, it is hoped, lead to greater practical returns for the rural pupil. A system of classification for teachers, both urban and rural, was also in progress; a census of unemployed teachers was taken; elementary schools were reclassified; and school equipment in 126 school districts was repaired for use, pending the acquisition of new equipment.

Outstanding in the educational program was the question of the school children's health. Government concern for this important aspect of child welfare found expression in many ways: school lunch rooms were established in many schools throughout the Republic, supplemented by the Nutrition Service, which examines the children, checks on their diet, and watches their physical condition and development; a tuberculosis survey was undertaken in all schools; the number of school dental clinics was increased to 70; in the few places where typhoid and other epidemics occurred, the School Health Service carried on both preventive and educational work, all to good effect; home visits by qualified medical personnel for sick children were started in Habana in April 1945; general health education was conducted regularly through classroom lectures, booklets, and films; and for the first time in Cuba the Government established a social service office for school children, the principal aim of which is to smooth out the difficulties of maladjusted pupils and help them fit into the general educational program.

The 392,689 public primary school pupils registered in 1943-44 increased in 1944-45 to 498,286. Speaking of the percentage of literacy, the President re-

ported that in 1943, in cities of 25,000 or more, the proportion of literates was 90.9 percent; in the rest of the Republic it was only 64.4 percent, both figures being lower than those in the 1931 census. Furthermore, according to the 1943 census, among the people more than 20 years of age, the percentage of illiterates in the Republic was only 22 percent, while among those of 10 to 19 years, it was 27 percent. This indicates a decrease in public instruction. Despite the fact that new schools were established, their increase was not proportionate to the increase in population. To the 498,286 public school children should be added 72,000 who receive instruction in private schools, but the President estimated that approximately 481,000 children, or 45 percent of all those of school age, are without instruction. This alarming situation calls for immediate school construction, he said, particularly in rural areas where the percentage of illiteracy is much greater than in cities.

Under the present administration the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare was organized into seven divisions: the National Board of Health and Public Welfare; the General Health Office; General Social Welfare Office; the Nurses and Midwives Service; the office in charge of campaigns against syphilis, leprosy, and skin diseases; the Child Guidance Center; and the National Public Assistance Corporation. The results achieved through this set-up were satisfying in all respects, the President stated. (It should be recalled that he is a physician.) The General Health Office reorganized the street cleaning and garbage disposal services in the city of Habana; made a survey of aqueducts and water supply systems throughout the Republic, and took steps in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works to effect certain improvements;

and made much progress in eliminating sources of malaria infection in Habana and other cities. The same office also had charge of campaigns against typhoid fever and parasitic diseases. In the case of the latter, which are more prevalent in rural areas, the Health Office worked most diligently throughout the country to improve the sanitary conditions of the rural home. The office supervised the installation of 1,000 latrines a month in rural schools and homes and secured the cooperation of land owners and sugar mills in bettering living conditions and sanitary facilities for workers. Medicines are provided free to needy persons suffering from parasitic diseases.

In October 1944 public works were suspended by presidential decree, pending an examination of their status. The study showed many irregularities in contracts and many of the latter were forthwith annulled. Later new bids were called for and the work resumed. Among accomplishments of the year under consideration were one new hospital and reconstruction and repairs at two others; a new model rural school and repairs at several other schools; and repairs to a number of public buildings. Construction or repair work was started on 8 hospitals and asylums, 10 schools, and a workers' housing project in Habana. Highway work was carried on to some extent in both Habana and Camagüey provinces, and 3 new bridges were built and 16 repaired.

Between labor and employers relations were generally harmonious through the year. The Labor Ministry succeeded in settling by conciliatory means some differences that arose, and legislation on behalf of labor was forthcoming as needs became apparent. Outstanding among such measures were the decrees regulating piece work done in the home; fixing

wage scales for maritime, railway, sugar, and textile workers; freezing salaries and wages; regulating labor conditions for chauffeurs; providing for paid rest periods; and fixing the summer working day.

As for foreign affairs, the President stated that Cuba will continue its traditional foreign policy and will concentrate particularly at this time on full cooperation with the United Nations in solving the complex problems of world organization for peace.

### *Postwar measures in the American Republics*

#### *Import, export, price, funds, and other controls*

Several Latin American countries have recently adopted measures suspending the rationing of tires and tubes, or have made other provisions tending toward facilitating their acquisition or production. Among these are Chile, where rationing was lifted as of September 1, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, September 12, 1945); Mexico, which by a decree dated December 4, 1945, repealed the requirement of turning in a used tire on purchasing a new one (*Diario Oficial*, January 8, 1946); and El Salvador, where controls on new truck tires and tubes were removed and control over the importation, trade, and use of natural or synthetic rubber was transferred from the defunct Committee on Economic Coordination to the Commission for the Purchase, Sale, and Distribution of Foodstuffs, subject to supervision by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The same decree in El Salvador also repealed legislation that regulated trade in and exportation of nationally produced rubber and removed restrictions on the acquisition of new or reconditioned trucks, trailers, and other motor vehicles. (*Diario Oficial*, December 26, 1945.) Ar-

gentina, which in January 1945 had temporarily prohibited the production of automobile tires for general distribution, again authorized such production by means of a decree dated September 27, 1945, and at the same time fixed a system of priorities for tire distribution. Brazil made new provisions pertaining to control over the production, distribution, and consumption of rubber manufactures, in accordance with standards established by the Agreements Control Commission of Washington (*Diário Oficial*, November 14, 1945).

As of November 1, 1945, Guatemala repealed wartime legislation that had set up gasoline and fuel oil rationing, but by another decree dated November 10, 1945, a system of priorities for official or national use of such fuels was instituted (*Diario de Centro América*, November 10 and 17, 1945). In Haiti gasoline rationing was terminated as of October 31, 1945 (*Le Moniteur*, October 29, 1945). Restrictions imposed by Mexico in February 1942 on the production, assembly, sale, transfer, etc., of motor vehicles were amended to the extent of allowing assembly plants and dealers to engage in their respective operations without securing prior permits for each operation. (*Diario Oficial*, January 8, 1946.)

In El Salvador a sweeping decree approved December 22, 1945, repealed a long list of decrees that during the period from 1942 to 1945 had applied import and trade controls. Among the goods thus released from further restrictions were copper wire and cable, iron, quinine, and construction materials. The same decree also removed various price control provisions. (*Diario Oficial*, December 26, 1945.) A Treasury resolution in Venezuela, dated November 27, 1945, listed over 70 articles of foodstuffs, construction materials, clothing, fuel, raw materials and manufactures, medicines, drugs, and apparatus which were declared to be ar-

ticles of prime necessity, thereby making them subject to price, distribution, and consumption controls by the National Supply Commission (*Gaceta Oficial*, November 27, 1945.) An Argentine decree of September 26, 1945, prohibited the exportation of uranium (*Boletín Oficial*, October 17, 1945), while another Argentine decree of September 29, 1945, continued in effect previous restrictions on the consumption of electric current. Haiti repealed a decree-law of June 2, 1941, which established a committee charged with the control of exports to countries other than the United States, if such exports might directly or indirectly serve for purposes of war (*Le Moniteur*, November 5, 1945).

Effective January 22, 1946, Mexico repealed its wartime prohibitions against the importation, exportation, transport, or holding of United States currency or trade therein (*Diario Oficial*, January 25, 1946). Haiti likewise repealed its restrictions relative to control over the importation and exportation of foreign currency. Travelers arriving in or leaving Haiti may now have in their possession any amount of foreign money, but United States currency is restricted to bills of not more than 20 dollars. Any United States bills of higher denominations will be taken up at the Customs Office, sent to the Bank of the Republic, and kept in a special blocked account. (*Le Moniteur*, November 5, 1945.)

#### *Wages and rents*

Mexico amended its law of September 23, 1943, on emergency wage increases for low-paid workers. The amended article provides generally that the emergency compensation is compulsory, but that workers can obtain increases in wages only in cases where it is economically possible for the enterprise to grant such increases; that enterprises that are unable to

meet the emergency compensation may present their cases in accordance with the Federal Labor Law; and that the minimum wage authorities may amend wage scales in accordance with the Federal Labor Law. (*Diario Oficial*, December 29, 1945.)

The Mexican decree of September 28, 1945, which lifted the suspension of certain constitutional guarantees that had been in force during the war, was itself amended by a decree of December 28, 1945, continuing in effect until repealed by later legislation the rent ceilings established in 1942, 1943, and 1945. (*Diario Oficial*, January 21, 1946.)

In Argentina rent control, first applied in 1943 and 1944, was continued in effect until December 31, 1946, by means of a decree dated November 21, 1945 (*Boletín Oficial*, November 23, 1945).

Expansion in production of food crops and livestock products in the Caribbean area has been proposed by the Governments of the United States and Great Britain. This is one point of a 30-point program for the economic development of the United States and British territories in the Caribbean made public on January 14, 1946, in a report issued in Washington and London.

The joint pronouncement was based on the recommendations of the first West Indian Conference held in Barbados in 1945 under the auspices of the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission. That Conference, at which the delegates were themselves representatives of the peoples of the area, recommended action by the home Governments on seven general subjects: local food production; expansion of fisheries; reabsorption into civil life of persons engaged in war employment; planning of public works for the improvement of agriculture, education, housing, and public health; health protection and

quarantine; industrial development; and possibilities of expansion of the Caribbean Research Council. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, January 27, 1946.)

### *The American Republics in the United Nations Organization*

In the first General Assembly of the United Nations Organization, of which Dr. Eduardo Zuleta Angel of Colombia was temporary President, two of the seven vice presidents were from American countries, namely, the United States and Venezuela.

The seven committees of the General Assembly were: the Steering Committee, provisionally composed of fourteen members: the President of the General Assembly, the seven Vice Presidents, and the chairmen of the other six committees; the Political and Security Committee; the Economic and Financial Committee; Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee; Trusteeship Committee, of which Dr. Roberto MacEachen of Uruguay was chairman; the Budgetary Committee; and the Legal Committee, Dr. Roberto Jiménez, of Panama, chairman.

All these committees, with the exception of the Steering Committee, were composed of representatives of the fifty-one members of the United Nations Organization.

Three of the eleven members of the Security Council are American Republics: Brazil (until 1948), Mexico (until 1947), and the United States (permanent).

The Military Staff Committee consists of the Chiefs of Staff, or their representatives, of the United States, the United Kingdom, the U. S. S. R., France, and China.

Five American countries are among the eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council: Colombia (until 1947), Chile (until 1949), Cuba (until 1948),

Peru (until 1948), and the United States (permanent).

In four ballots by the General Assembly and the Security Council, each voting independently of the other, fifteen of the world's leading jurists were elected on February 6, 1946, to the bench of the International Court of Justice, one of the five main organs of the United Nations established by the United Nations Charter.

Of these fifteen, named from seventy-two candidates, five represent the American Republics: José Gustavo Guerrero of El Salvador, last president of the old court (until 1955); Isidro Fabela Alfaro of Mexico (until 1952); Alejandro Álvarez of Chile (until 1955); José Philadelpho de Barros Azevedo of Brazil (until 1955); and Green H. Hackworth of the United States, hitherto legal adviser to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes (until 1952).

The election of Judge Hackworth marks an historic milestone in American participation in a world court. Although a United States citizen had been a justice of the former Permanent Court of International Justice, the United States was never a member.

One of the eight assistant secretaries general of the United Nations is from the Americas: Dr. Benjamin Cohen of Chile, in charge of information.

The Assembly fixed the seat of the United Nations in the United States. The second meeting of the Security Council was scheduled for March 25 in New York.

### *Draft Declaration of the International Rights and Duties of Man*

The Inter-American Juridical Committee, which sits at Rio de Janeiro, has prepared a Draft Declaration of the International Rights and Duties of Man, pursuant to paragraph 9 of Resolution IX of the



Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace. This Declaration is to be incorporated into the draft charter for the improvement and strengthening of the Pan American system, which after consideration by the governments members of the Union, will be acted on at the Ninth International Conference of American States to be held at Bogotá next December. Twenty-one topics are discussed at some length. They are:

1. Right to life
2. Right to personal liberty
3. Right to freedom of speech and of expression
4. Right to freedom of religious worship
5. Right to freedom of assembly
6. Right to freedom of association
7. Right to petition the government
8. Right to own property
9. Right to a nationality
10. Right to freedom of family relations
11. Right to be free from arbitrary arrest
12. Right to a fair trial
13. Right to participate in elections
14. Right to work
15. Right to share in benefits of science
16. Right to social security
17. Right to education
18. Right to equality before the law
19. Rights and duties [are] correlative
20. Incorporation of Declaration into municipal law
21. Procedure in cases involving aliens

The report is signed by Francisco Campos, F. Nieto del Río, Charles G. Fenwick, and A. Gómez Robledo.

### *Haiti's commercial and financial situation, 1944-45*

September 30, 1945, marked the end of the 1944-45 Haitian fiscal year. Figures published by the National Bank of the Republic show that the country once again benefited financially from war conditions. With many principal world markets cut off from regular pre-war sources of supply, there was a continuing demand for

Haitian export products, and Haiti's customers paid higher prices for Haitian sugar, coffee, bananas, and other goods. There was some difficulty because of trade restrictions imposed in the United States and because of lack of shipping facilities in obtaining all the goods from abroad that Haitian importers might have consumed, but the consequent reduction of imports combined with a substantial increase in export values resulted in the creation of a larger trade balance for Haiti than any recorded since 1918-19.

Exports for the year ended September 30, 1945, were valued at 85,561,000 gourdes (the gourde is pegged at 5 to the dollar), an increase of 6 percent over the 1943-44 figure of 80,542,000 gourdes. Imports for the same period were valued at 65,770,000 gourdes, a decrease of 18 percent from the previous year's total of 80,155,000 gourdes. As a result, Haiti ended the year with a favorable trade balance of 19,791,000 gourdes, compared with 387,000 gourdes in 1943-44. Each of the past four years has closed with a favorable trade balance for Haiti, the cumulative figure for the four years being 24,649,757 gourdes. This record is unique in Haitian annals.

Chief among the items which helped to swell the total of Haitian exports in 1944-45 were coffee, bananas, sisal, handicraft products, and essential oils. The growth of trade under the latter two headings was particularly marked, mahogany wares and sisal handbags being the principal items in the handicraft export trade. Total handicraft exports in 1944-45 were valued at 6,150,000 gourdes, as compared to a value of 2,963,000 gourdes in 1943-44. The export of essential oils (lime, vetiver, neroli, and amyris) increased from 894,500 gourdes in 1943-44 to 1,831,000 gourdes in 1945. The combined values of these two classes of exports were sufficient in

1944-45 to give these products fifth place among Haitian exports; they were exceeded only by coffee, bananas, sugar, and sisal exports, in the order named. Cotton exports declined by 3,832,000 gourdes in 1944-45, but at the year-end considerable stocks were being held for export at a later date. By a wide margin coffee is the principal Haitian export commodity. In 1944-45 it accounted for more than 40 percent of total Haitian exports.

Total government revenues during the fiscal year 1944-45 amounted to 41,890,000 gourdes, or 480,000 gourdes less than 1943-44 collections. However, the year's receipts may be considered as satisfactory since they were considerably above the annual average and, with the exception of 1943-44, the highest since 1928-29.

Customs receipts, which provide approximately 75 percent of total national revenue, amounted to 30,553,000 gourdes in 1944-45. Import duties totaled 22,657,000 gourdes, or 1,847,000 less than in 1943-44. Export duties totaled 7,656,000 gourdes, compared with 6,423,000 collected in 1943-44. Duties on coffee exports accounted for the greater portion of the increase of 1,233,000 gourdes.

Internal revenue receipts in 1944-45 again established an all-time high record, having amounted to 10,550,000 gourdes, as compared with 10,489,000 in 1943-44, the previous record. Income tax collections in 1944-45, amounting to 4,634,000 gourdes, represented 49.9 percent of all internal revenues. Since no increase in rates occurred during the year, the rise in collections reflects greater business profits and improved collection methods. As an indication of how much the income tax revenues mean to the public treasury, it may be noted that the 1944-45 income tax collections were greater than combined internal revenue receipts for any year prior to 1928-29 and were almost equal to total

internal revenues for a year as recent as 1940-41.

With the exception of the fiscal year 1929-30, an all-time high record was established during 1944-45 in the amount of fiscal expenditures. The total of such expenditures was 42,516,000 gourdes, or 495,000 more than during 1943-44. The various government departments and services increased their expenditures by 3,305,000 gourdes, while payments on the public debt declined 2,810,000. However, in connection with the latter, it is pertinent to remark that in 1943-44 all payments provided for by contracts or special agreements were met, and in addition, 4,000,000 gourdes were paid toward the end of the year as an advance on the amount due in 1944-45. A similar advance payment of 4,000,000 gourdes on amounts due for 1945-46 was effected in September 1945.

The relatively favorable revenue returns in 1944-45 made it possible to close the fiscal year with an unobligated treasury surplus of 3,283,000 gourdes, in spite of the fact that disbursements totaled 42,516,000 gourdes. The unobligated surplus at the end of 1943-44 was 4,778,000 gourdes.

The gross public debt of the Republic as of September 30, 1945, amounted to 52,936,000 gourdes, as compared to 60,460,000 gourdes at the end of September 1944 and 70,419,000 at the close of September 1943.

### *Constitutional changes in El Salvador*

After months of careful deliberation, the Constitutional Assembly of El Salvador issued a decree on November 29, 1945, reinstating the Constitution of 1886 as the supreme law of the land. In order to adapt this Constitution to present-day

needs, the Assembly made extensive amendments. Many of these are derived from the Constitution of 1939 or the 1944 amendments to that Constitution; others are innovations in Salvadorean constitutional law.

The first amendment expands and clarifies Article 3 on the limits of El Salvador's territory. Another modifies Article 5 (prohibiting any entailment of property) so as to include the two exceptions allowed by the Constitution of 1939: (1) Trusts created in favor of the nation, charitable or cultural institutions, persons legally incapable of managing their own affairs, or infants *en ventre sa mère*; (2) family property.

New provisions include the amendment to Article 12 (on religious freedom), exempting churches from paying a property tax, and recognizing the Catholic Church as a legal person. The amendment states that churches of other denominations may obtain such recognition through due process of law. Another innovation is the removal of the provision in Article 33 that education provided at Government expense must be non-religious.

Certain exceptions to the article requiring advance compensation for expropriated property were taken over from the Constitution of 1939. Such exceptions now include land needed for road building or aqueducts as well as property seized as a result of war or public catastrophe. The 1944 amendment allowing the seizure of the property of nationals of enemy countries was also incorporated in the present Constitution.

The 1886 Constitution provided for only one brief regularly scheduled session of Congress per year; under the 1945 amendments, there will be two regular sessions, February 1 to June 30, and August 1 to December 31.

Only four Ministries were provided for in the Constitution of '86; this has been amended so as to allow as many as are considered necessary by the Executive. Also amended was the provision that natives of other Central American countries as well as of El Salvador were eligible for the office of Minister; as under the Constitution of 1939, only native Salvadoreans are now eligible.

The section on *Public Finance* from the 1939 Constitution has been substituted for that on the *National Treasury* in the Constitution of 1886, the only change being the elimination of the final article, which exempted public credit institutions from the supervision of the Court of Accounts.

Also taken over from the 1939 Constitution was the section on the *Public Ministry*. This Ministry, directed by the Attorney General, represents the State and society in seeing that the laws are obeyed, that justice is meted out quickly and efficiently, and in protecting the interests of minors, the poor, and all those incapable of defending themselves. However, the 1939 Constitution provided that the Attorney General would be under the Minister of Justice, whereas the new amendment makes the Public Ministry autonomous. Another change is that all members of this Ministry will now be appointed by the President, whereas under the 1939 Constitution the latter appointed only the Attorney General and certain specified members.

Perhaps the most important innovations in the 1945 amendments are found in the section on *Family and Labor*. Although this section contains some of the general principles found in the chapter of that name in the 1939 Constitution, its provisions are much more extensive and specific.

The State is to protect the moral, physical, economic, intellectual, and social

welfare of the family. It will assist in the acquisition and upkeep of small units of rural property, and in the construction of comfortable and healthful houses for the rural and urban population.

Labor is defined as a social duty and a social right, and the State undertakes to employ every means in its power to provide work for those who want it, and to guarantee a good standard of living to the laborer.

The labor code that will govern the relations between capital and labor will include provisions for:

1. Minimum wages for each zone and type of work, determined periodically by commissions composed of an equal number of employers and employees, and presided over by a Government representative.

2. Equal pay for equal work.

3. Maximum working days, established according to sex and age.

4. One day of rest per week in addition to national holidays and paid vacations after one year.

5. Special protection for the labor of women and children.

6. Adequate compensation for accidents occurring at work, occupational diseases, and unjustified dismissals.

7. Careful regulation of working conditions and safety measures.

8. The irrenunciability of the legally established rights of labor, although labor contracts may establish further privileges.

Other articles in this section state that obligatory Social Security will be established, with the collaboration of the Government, employers, and employees; that the State will promote social welfare, credit, and savings institutions, as well as all types of cooperatives; and that the executive branch of the Government will create the organisms that it considers necessary to maintain equilibrium among the various factors of production. The right of workers to strike and that of employers to impose lockouts are to be regulated by law.

Certain minor changes, some carried over from the 1939 Constitution, were made in the impeachment procedures provided for in the Constitution of 1886.

The Electoral Law is to be revised in order to regulate the right of suffrage for women, which was granted in 1944.

The current President and Vice President, who came into power in 1945, will remain in office until March 1, 1949; the terms of the Justices of the Supreme Court and of the Courts of Second Instance will end on March 31, 1947. Article 113 of the 1886 Constitution, providing for popular election of municipal officials, was suspended until December 31, 1946, and present incumbents will hold their positions until that time.

### *Brazilian cotton goods*

One of the noteworthy changes in Brazil's economic structure during the war was the impetus given to the textile industry by foreign buying. Before the war Brazil had a small-scale market in cotton goods with Argentina and other South American countries, but at present Brazilian mills are supplying cotton textiles to 48 countries throughout the world. During the first eight months of 1945, cotton goods sales were as follows:

	Tons	1,000 cruzeiros
Africa.....	2, 240	122, 518
North and Central America.....	1, 920	91, 644
South America.....	9, 807	586, 277
Asia.....	143	4, 301
Europe.....	1, 232	59, 962
	15, 342	864, 702

It is possible that some of these markets may decline when world conditions return to normal, but indications are that Brazil

has secured a strong foothold in South Africa and in the Portuguese colonies in Africa, as well as in Turkey.

### *Industrial workers in Medellín*

Colombia's first industrial census has called attention to the rapid industrial development that is going on in the Department of Antioquia, particularly in and around the city of Medellín. Manufacturing establishments with five or more employees were registered in this census. The Department of Antioquia had 1394 such establishments, and in the Medellín valley alone more than 800 were found.

Medellín factories seem to be employing chiefly local workers, young and unmarried, and not organized in labor unions. Of the 32,000 workers in these 800 Medellín establishments, only a third, less than 8,000, had ever been married, and even fewer, less than 7,000, had any labor union affiliations. Women formed slightly more than three-eighths of the total number. Almost all of the 32,000 employees were born in Antioquia, and almost all could read and write; only four percent of the men were illiterate, and only three percent of the women.

### *Oil in southern Chile*

The oil that Chile has been hoping to find for nearly thirty years has been discovered in Magallanes as the result of a thorough search which the Government Development Corporation has been carrying on since 1942. In September 1945 oil studies were begun on the main island of Tierra del Fuego, part of which belongs to the Chilean territory of Magallanes. In December oil was found in a trial drilling at Springhill, toward the north of Chile's western part of the island. The first yield

came from a depth of some 7,400 feet, with a flow estimated at about fifty gallons a minute, and appeared to be based on an area of nearly ten square miles.

Discovery of oil within the nation's borders holds great possibilities for Chile. If the supply proves to be abundant, the oil will bring a measure of relief to some pressing economic problems by improving communication among different parts of the country, by reducing the pressure on imports, and by facilitating increased use of machinery to promote Chile's industrial and agricultural development. Oil resources will be commercially exploited under supervision of the Government Development Corporation.

### *Dominican economic progress*

A new factory, employing about 400 persons, under an employee-participation plan, has been opened in the city of San Cristóbal. This enterprise manufactures paper products, is engaged in printing and binding, and has a sewing department which makes clothing and allied products. The workers, in their capacity as associates, will participate in profits, and as an extra stimulus the company will distribute cash prizes to those who excel in their work. Its wage rates are higher than average.

The sewing department, in addition to making military and civilian wearing apparel, is now filling important orders for flags for Central American Governments. The management has acquired modern machines which will be installed in new buildings.

Twenty-three irrigation canals were recently opened in the Dominican Republic. They will irrigate the most distant and needy sections of the country, and have a capacity of 9,933 gallons per second, irrigating an area of 69,000 acres.

Other irrigation projects nearing com-

pletion are seven canals with a capacity of 6,683 gallons per second, irrigating an area of 53,000 acres; and the canal of Navarrete, in the province of Santiago, with a capacity of 3,170 gallons per second, irrigating an area of 31,000 acres.

Sixteen more canals, which will solve the irrigation problems of the Republic, are being planned, and will have a total capacity of 5,587 gallons per second, irrigating an area of 51,000 acres.

According to figures published by the Director General of Statistics the year 1944 was a record year, not only in volume of exports, but in dollar value. Exports of sugar, cacao, molasses, coffee, cassava-starch, lumber, shoes, rice, beer, cigarettes, etc. weighing 1,060,732 metric tons and valued at \$60,269,328, were sent abroad.

### *Avianca in Colombian hands*

Colombians obtained national control of their cardinal air lines when a new issue of stock in AVIANCA, the national aviation company, was sold to Colombian buyers last September, thereby placing the majority of the company's stock in the hands of Colombians. AVIANCA (Aerovías Nacionales de Colombia) is Colombia's great commercial air line, and aviation is of preeminent importance in Colombia's economy. Overland travel is made difficult by the three lofty spurs of the Andes which divide Colombia from south to north; railroads and highways are hard to build, and do not connect to form a network over the country. The air lines are therefore a vital point in the country's internal communications.

Aviation developed early and rapidly in Colombia because of these topographical features. The present organization, however, dates only from 1940, when SACO

(Servicio Aéreo Colombiano) was merged with SCADTA (Sociedad Colombo-Alemana de Transportes Aéreos), the German company which controlled most of the lines, to form a new company, AVIANCA, in which Pan American Airways was the only non-Colombian stockholder. Since that time Colombian representation in the management and in the actual flying has been steadily and rapidly increasing, while the administration continues as before to be responsible to the Colombian Ministry of War.

Transfer of majority control in September 1945 was accomplished by issuing 100,000 new shares of stock, with purchase rights distributed pro rata among existing stockholders. The block of new shares which would thus have been assigned to Pan American Airways, the largest single stockholder, was then, by agreement between Pan American Airways and AVIANCA's directors, offered to Colombian buyers who were not already stockholders. The shares were promptly and eagerly subscribed, and the board was therefore able to make a geographical selection of buyers, so that AVIANCA ownership is distributed among different parts of the country.

### *Cement production in Chile*

Two hundred thousand tons or more will be added to Chile's annual production of cement by the new plant opened last September at Juan Soldado, a few miles north of La Serena. The output of this new factory, with the additional 100,000 tons a year produced as a result of the enlargement of El Melón plant at La Calera, will probably make it possible for all of Chile's cement needs to be supplied from domestic sources. Difficulties involved in importing cement to meet a rapidly growing demand have constituted one of the bottlenecks of

Chile's expanding industry, and cement production has therefore been one of the important items on the program of the Government Development Corporation.

The Juan Soldado plant is located in the heart of the rich limestone deposits of the province of Coquimbo, and has been provided with five miles of railroad to connect it with the northern network of the state railroad system at a point near La Serena. There is an ample and dependable water supply to operate the plant's 12,500 kilowatt power plant, which will furnish power not only for the cement factory but also for industrial and home use in the province of Coquimbo. Shipment of such quantities of cement as will be produced at Juan Soldado will greatly overtax the harbor of Coquimbo, so that authorities believe Coquimbo's port facilities will have to be remodeled on a much larger scale, or else the cement plant will have to be provided with wharves of its own at Punta de Teatinos.

### *Bolivia and Peru begin cooperative educational program*

The Ministers of Public Education of Peru and Bolivia recently signed in Arequipa an important agreement establishing plans for the furtherance of Indian education in the two countries and for joint action toward the solution of the Indian problem in general. The agreement contains twelve basic principles, reached after careful deliberation on the part of the representatives of the two neighbor Republics.

The Indian question was considered as a social, economic, agrarian, educational, and juridical problem, which requires the cooperation of all the official organizations of Peru and Bolivia. It was resolved that cultural advances must be incorporated

into the lives of the Indians in order to increase the social value of this group which has already demonstrated its ability to contribute to universal civilization.

Among the general principles adopted was that rural schools should stress the teaching of practical agricultural skills, thus increasing the productivity of the Indians. The schools founded or enlarged in accordance with the Arequipa agreement will be open to all the inhabitants of rural areas without distinction of any kind, so that the essential and practical knowledge they offer may reach as many as possible.

A supplementary provision calls for a careful study of the geographic, economic, and health problems of the Lake Titicaca region. Periodic conferences will be held by the teachers and educators appointed by the two countries to consider ways and means of utilizing to the best advantage the resources of this district. The first of these conferences was to be held in Bolivia on December 15, 1945.

This agreement is the most far-reaching cooperative step ever taken by the Peruvian and Bolivian Governments to solve their common Indian problem in all its fundamental aspects. In stressing the educational aspects, the two Governments have recognized the fact that education is the basis for the incorporation of the Indian into national life, and an essential factor in his progress and general well-being.

### *Colleges for Colombian women*

Liberal arts courses of university grade are to be offered to Colombian women in institutions of learning which will soon be opened under government auspices. The new schools will be called *colegios mayores de cultura femenina*, to distinguish them from the *colegios*, the traditional secondary schools, which in Colombia provide not

only work covered in high schools of the United States but also a year or two more, so that the *bachillerato* which is given to graduates of the Colombian *colegio* puts them on a level with the sophomores or juniors of American colleges.

From the *colegio* the Colombian goes on to the university, and for several years the National University has been open to women. But university work is largely professional, and few women have cared to undertake it. Many more, it is believed, will be eager to take advantage of the liberal arts courses offered in these new schools.

The *colegios mayores* will admit girls who have graduated from *colegios*, and will confer university degrees. They will offer courses in letters, including languages, history, and philosophy; in arts, including music and decoration; in science, including chemistry, bacteriology, and other sciences; and in "social activities," a field which will take in various phases of home economics as well as the studies required by the increasing number of Colombian women who are preparing to be social workers. There will also be courses open to women who have never completed the formal secondary work of the *colegios*, but have been able to qualify themselves for studies of university grade.

The new colleges will be autonomous. They will be established by the Colombian government in cooperation with authorities of the Department or city where the school is to be located, or of a university already existing, and the government will share expenses with the cooperating authority. In Bogotá the government is working with the National University and with the Upper Normal School; in Medellín with the Central Femenino de Antioquia. Cartagena and Popayán are also to have colleges organized in 1946, and other cities in later years.

### *Peru establishes free secondary education*

Public education in Peru took a significant step forward when, on October 27, 1945, the Congress of that country passed a law providing for free secondary education. Eligible for this privilege are all students who have successfully completed their studies in the public primary schools, and who are not failing in more than two subjects in their secondary work. The secondary course in Peru is of five years' duration.

Benefiting from the law in 1946 will be at least 100 secondary school students in the provincial capitals, 200 in the department capitals, 300 each in the regional secondary schools of Trujillo, Chiclayo, Huánuco, Huancayo, Ica, Puno, Cuzco, and Iquitos, and 500 in certain specified schools in Lima, Callao, and Arequipa.

The President was authorized, beginning in 1946, to include in the national budget the funds necessary for the fulfillment of this law.

### *Mexico's literacy campaign*

The first official progress report on the results of Mexico's campaign against illiteracy was recently issued by the office in charge of the campaign. Figures were released covering the period March 1, 1945, the date the campaign began, to December 31, 1945. During those nine months, in the Collective Teaching Centers scattered throughout the country 278,284 persons completed their lessons in reading and writing. Of this total 155,759 were men and 122,525 women. These figures do not include reports on results in the States of Jalisco and Sinaloa and the Territory of Quintana Roo.

The general registry of persons attending the Centers showed a total of more than a



million at the end of 1945. Although the law of August 21, 1944, that authorized the campaign, provided that examinations of those who completed their studies should begin on March 1, 1946, the Secretary of Public Education, as Executive Director of the campaign, authorized school inspectors and teachers at the end of December 1945 to proceed immediately to examine all those who were ready to terminate their studies at the Teaching Centers, in order to make way for others.

Although exact figures were not made available, according to the campaign office the direct person-to-person teaching method is also giving results as satisfactory as those obtained in the Teaching Centers.

To provide additional funds, an official decree dated November 21, 1945, declared the campaign to be an instrument of public utility and provided for the addition of a 1-centavo stamp to all first-class mail in the Republic. The entire proceeds of the sale of these stamps are being allocated to campaign expenditures.

### *Nutritional research in the Caribbean area*

An extended nutritional research program to promote the health and well-being of residents of the Caribbean area was recently announced. It is a joint project of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Pan American School of Agriculture of Honduras, which is sponsored by the United Fruit Company.

This research project is an outgrowth of the work which has been conducted by Dr. Robert S. Harris and his colleagues of the Institute, who, during the past few years, have made similar investigations in Mexico under the auspices of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. In the course of the studies in Mexico it was found that the diet is not as deficient as previously

supposed; in fact, it is superior in certain respects to the diet of many parts of the United States.

Viewpoints in nutrition are changing, the announcement said. Instead of undertaking to provide the inhabitants of tropical countries with more milk, more butter, and more eggs, all of which are either difficult or impossible to produce in the tropics, it is now believed possible to develop in each country a diet which is easy to produce, and which may supply the necessary proteins, calories, minerals, and vitamins which are required for adequate human nutrition. This dietary would be cheap because it would be composed of native foods of high nutritive value.

It is stated that over the centuries the aboriginal inhabitants of the Mexican highlands, by a process of trial and error, have learned to utilize in their diet native plants of unusual value. Dr. Harris has particularly laid stress upon one wild plant, known as *malva*, which contains vitamins in unusual variety and quantities. While it is not a particularly tasty herb, malva meets a deficiency in the diet which would otherwise be hard to fill. It is hoped and expected that other plants may be found in Middle America which have unusual dietetic value.

Data on the investigation now beginning, which will include specimens of all edible plants in Middle America with complete notes on their characteristics, distribution, and uses, will be sent to the laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge for analysis by nutritional biochemists. This painstaking work, which will take several years to produce practical results, is the kind of basic research necessary for the nutrition and health program of every nation, the announcement stressed. This is a pioneering program, as the Central American area possesses many food plants not known

elsewhere and not previously analyzed.

The Pan American School of Agriculture, which will collaborate with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in this nutrition program, is directed by the well known authority on tropical agriculture, Dr. Wilson Popenoe. Founded and endowed with permanent maintenance in 1941 by the United Fruit Company, the school gives free tuition, board and other benefits to students from all parts of Middle America.

### *Social reforms in the Dominican Republic*

A bill, designed to replace the legislation covering minimum wages, was submitted to Congress by President Trujillo October 8, 1945. Some of the important provisions are:

1. The Dominican worker will receive at least a subsistence wage.
2. The President is given power to fix basic salaries.
3. A workers' representative will be a member of the National Committee on Wages.
4. Employers are now permitted to pay a higher daily wage than that previously set by law.

An important part of the President's plan of social welfare is the creation of a day nursery. One will be opened soon which will take care of the children of mothers who work as servants in the homes and hotels of Ciudad Trujillo. The children who meet the requirements for admittance to the nurseries will enjoy all kinds of care and comforts, and will doubtless benefit from the change in diet. In addition to clothes and food, the children will receive the care of a doctor and nurse. They should show physical improvement, surrounded as they will be by ample light, pure air, and hygienic conditions.

Three hundred and eighty-four schools

served more than 691,675 free breakfasts to children during the months of April-June 1945, and a constant increase is expected in the number of pupils benefiting from this service.

### *Bolivian concerns required to establish stores for employees*

The Bolivian Government has recently issued a decree requiring all enterprises away from population centers to establish stores carrying such necessary articles as food, dry goods, clothes, fuel, non-alcoholic drinks, cleaning implements, daily papers, and a few basic books.

In all such stores merchandise must be offered at cost plus 10 percent to cover the expense of administration and waste. No coercion may be brought to bear on employees to patronize the stores, and their establishment does not exclude free commerce in the areas in which the enterprises are located.

Company stores selling at prices below cost are prohibited, and companies that had conducted such stores are required to raise their prices and make compensatory adjustments in wages.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare will supervise the prices, the quality of the goods, and the selling conditions in the stores, as well as decide where new stores must be established. It will also fix fines in cases of infraction of the law.

Enterprises with more than 500 workmen are obliged to employ a physician to supervise the diet of the workers and the purchase of foodstuffs by the stores. The physician will send semi-annual reports to the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare on the nutrition of adult workers, and the growth and weight of child workers and workers' children. Public dining rooms must be established in the districts indicated by the Ministry.

### *Peru launches extensive housing program*

The Peruvian Government is initiating an extensive housing program, to be carried on in Lima, Callao, and other cities throughout the Republic. Detailed plans for this program have been worked out by the National Housing Commission with the cooperation of the Ministry of Development and Public Works.

Seven developments are contemplated in the Lima-Callao area, three located between the two cities, one north of the Rimac River, one on the eastern outskirts of Lima, and two near the Limatambo Airport. Each of these developments will cover an area of 74 acres, and will include, in addition to residential apartments, separate schools for girls and boys, a football field, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts, a swimming pool, a church, a civic center, a marketing and commercial center, a theater, a restaurant, and a parking area. Each will accommodate 1,000 families.

Privately owned land chosen by the National Housing Commission for these projects will be purchased, or, when necessary, expropriated. The *Pro-Desocupados* organization (an agency assisting the unemployed), has been ordered to begin paving and sanitation work on selected sites immediately.

This comprehensive housing program is expected to go far in solving one of Peru's oldest and most serious social problems.

### *Employment of United States citizens in Latin America*

Under this title the Division of Labor and Social Information of the Pan American Union recently issued an eighteen-page mimeographed report, which sets forth cer-

tain general and fundamental considerations that should be kept in mind by those who think they might like to go to Latin America to earn a living. The following is a summary of some of the principal points:

Although Latin American jobs may be available to a limited extent for properly equipped persons, the outlook is not nearly so promising as many reports would indicate. Certain factors operative in Latin America which affect the chances for employment of United States citizens must be taken into account. These factors are: 1) the trend toward nationalism as manifested in legislation restricting the employment of aliens, immigration policies, and the expanding programs of vocational and technical education; 2) low wage and salary levels and lower living standards than those in the United States; and 3) the uncertainty as to economic conditions in the postwar period.

A tendency to curb the employment of foreigners by legislative measures has been evident in Latin America for many years. Today, legislation which restricts the hiring of aliens is in force in all the Latin American republics, and it has been at least partly responsible for the policy adopted by American firms operating in those countries of drawing upon the local labor supply whenever possible.

The history of Latin American immigration policies in the last twenty years reveals the same restrictive tendency observed in the legislation just mentioned. In the 1800's and in the first two decades or so of this century, Latin America was open to practically all immigrants, but with the wave of unemployment which struck in the early thirties, this liberal policy was replaced by a highly restrictive and selective one.

Today, unless an immigrant is a prospective agriculturist, investor, or exceptional

technician, he cannot gain admission to certain countries. In others, aside from the actual limitation of the number of foreigners who may be admitted, measures have been adopted to make entry difficult or to eliminate those considered undesirable. For example, in some instances immigrants are barred unless they have, among other things, good health and a minimum sum of money. Once an immigrant has succeeded in entering a Latin American country, he has to surmount the obstacles created by the alien percentage laws.

Although the needs of the future and the dislocations caused by the present world conflict may bring about some change, there is little possibility of a return to the old policy of unrestricted immigration.

Certain requirements must be fulfilled, as a rule, in order to secure employment in the Latin American republics:

(1) One of the most obvious requisites is a knowledge of the language of the country in which employment is sought. Fluency in a foreign tongue is particularly essential for effective business relations. Spanish is the official language of all the Latin American republics with the exception of Brazil and Haiti, in which Portuguese and French respectively are spoken.

(2) An ability to adjust to an entirely new environment is very important. Certain so-called "invisible factors," such as unusual climatic conditions, strange foods, and a different mode of living in Latin America require a flexible person who can readily adapt himself to completely unfamiliar surroundings.

(3) No less important is an acquaintance with the customs and habits of Latin Americans in business as well as in their personal life. It is considered desirable in this connection that the candidate for a Latin American job have some knowledge

of the history and economic geography of Latin America.

(4) A requirement which cannot be emphasized enough is the necessity of obtaining a position in this country prior to going to Latin America, whether it be with a United States firm operating in Latin America, or, more rarely, with a native enterprise or a Latin American government.

(5) If an American is hired on other than a limited contract to serve in the Latin American branch of a United States firm, he must plan to spend a number of years abroad.

(6) Last but perhaps most important of all is the possession of skills which are lacking in Latin America. There is an ample supply of nationals who can fill unskilled or routine white collar jobs. The provision "equal pay for equal work regardless of nationality" which appears in the alien percentage legislation of several countries also militates against the American with no special qualifications. Hence, it is difficult for the alien to compete with natives unless he has abilities not available locally. As already mentioned, Latin America's great need is for technical experts. Until enough nationals are available to meet this demand, foreigners who can qualify as engineers, scientists, and specialists in transportation, management, and manufacturing will be the ones most likely to obtain Latin American positions.

The report goes on to discuss opportunities in the following fields: skilled and unskilled labor; secretarial and clerical work; engineering and specialized technical positions; executive and administrative posts; social work; teaching; foreign service; other professional employment; sales promotion and public relations; and farming.

Other factors entering into a realistic appraisal of the employment situation in Latin America have to do with visas, cost

of living, the reaction of Latin American workers to the employment of foreigners, and industrial development.

*We see by the papers that—*

- A Bureau of Standards has been created in *Chile* under the name of Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Tecnológicas y Normalización. Government departments and offices are required to ask the bureau to set up any standards needed in connection with their work that are not created by their own personnel.

- An instrument for the transfer of *Panama's* water and sewer system from control of the United States to Panama and a contract for the administration of the water system by the Panama Canal were signed in Panama City December 28, 1945.

Under the terms of the transfer, the water and sewer systems became Panamanian property as of January 1, 1946, but the operation and administration of the water system will be carried on by the Panama Canal until Panama has properly trained personnel.

- Passing upon the case of a young woman about to be discharged from a Bogotá bank, a *Colombian* labor office has ruled that marriage of an employee gives the employer no grounds for dismissal.

- The National Housing Commission in *Argentina* was abolished in 1945 and replaced by a Housing Bureau in the Department of Labor and Social Welfare.

- The Ford Motor Company's two rubber plantations in *Brazil*, at Fordlandia and Belterra on the Tapajos River, were bought by the Brazilian Government by decree of December 26, 1945, for a token payment of \$250,000. The investment was said to be \$9,000,000. The progress of synthetic rubber manufacture and labor

problems are said to have influenced the decision.

- In 1945 *Venezuela* imported a number of shipments of automobile tires and tubes from *Brazil*.

- The report of the YPF (Argentine National Oilfields) for 1944 showed a production of 2,600,000 cubic meters, 57,000 less than that for the preceding year. This is considered to be the result of the impossibility of obtaining new machinery and replacements. The profit earned was 70.6 million pesos, while that for 1943 was 89.8 million pesos.

- *Venezuela* has recently authorized several rural banks to act legally as Small Farmer Cooperatives. The authorization is by virtue of recent resolutions of the Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Stock-raising. These Banks are located in Cazorla, State of Guárico; La Grita, State of Táchira; Chejendé, State of Trujillo; and Atures, Amazonas Territory.

Executive Decree 299, of December 15, 1944, arranged for the Bank of Agriculture and Livestock to continue the granting of credits to the Rural Banks, and provided one million bolívars to be used exclusively for this purpose.

- Volunteer teachers in the second phase of *Guatemala's* anti-illiteracy campaign are to be prepared by two weeks of special instruction, and will then be paid for their work if they teach classes of ten or more.

- In accordance with a fellowship program undertaken by the Governments of *Panama* and the *United States*, a Fellowship and Scholarship Selection Committee, appointed by agreement between the two governments, has selected eight Panamanian students to receive fellowships. These students have been placed by the Institute of International Education in the Universities of Pennsylvania, Southern California,

Indiana, Syracuse, and Ohio State, and Arkansas Polytechnic College, with the Social Security Board, and with the Inter-American Educational Foundation, Inc. Their fields include medicine, finance, social service, agriculture, and social security. The expenses of these fellowships will be shared by the Panamanian and United States Governments.

- The First Juan Gualberto Gómez Prizes, awarded annually in *Cuba* for the best article, the best piece of reporting, the best photograph or the best graphic information, and the best newsreel, were given in 1945 to Guillermo Martínez Márquez for his article "The 1945 Sugar Crop" published in *El País*; Guillermo Gener, for his piece of reporting entitled "In the Heart of the Sierra Maestra there is a Valley of Death," published in *Prensa Libre*; Generoso Funcasta, for his photographs of "The Arrival of President Grau," and to Eduardo Hernández Toledo for his newsreels entitled "Cyclone," "Big Fire," and "Considerable Damage," shown by *Noticiero Nacional*. Señor Hernández Toledo won first, second, and third prizes in his category. The first prizes consist of \$1,500 and a gold medal, the second of \$1,000 and a silver medal, and the third of \$500 and a bronze medal. They are offered by the President of Cuba with a view to improving the nation's press.

- The *Brooklyn* Museum has been showing gold, silver, and jade ornaments made in America before the time of Columbus. They are notable not only for their craftsmanship but also for their artistic quality, which may well inspire the designers of

today. Readers of the BULLETIN will recall the illustrations of similar gold objects from Colombia in the March number.

- In a ceremony held on October 26, 1945 in *Panama City*, Andrés Cristóbal Toro, blind young Panamanian, was presented with the Helen Keller Gold Medal for Literary Excellence, a distinction given to writers chosen from those of the Americas and the British Empire. The Medal was awarded by the Braille Institute of America for an essay written by Señor Toro since his attainment of facility in reading by the Braille system.

- The Senate of the *Dominican Republic* has approved a law whereby students enrolled in official high schools and normal schools are exempt from the payment of all fees. The certificates granted by normal schools, and the diplomas issued by the National Council of Education, are to be tax-free.

- In November 1945, the *Bolivian* Congress authorized the Executive branch of the Government to borrow up to \$12,000,000 for use in stimulating agriculture, mining, and industry in that country. The money will be borrowed from the Central Bank of Bolivia or from other domestic or foreign credit institutions, for five to ten years.

- On January 18, 1946, at the Second National Assembly of the *Partido de la Revolución Mexicana* (Party of the Mexican Revolution), voted to change the party designation to *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* (Revolutionary Institutional Party). The PRM, henceforth to be known as the PRI, is by far Mexico's largest political party.

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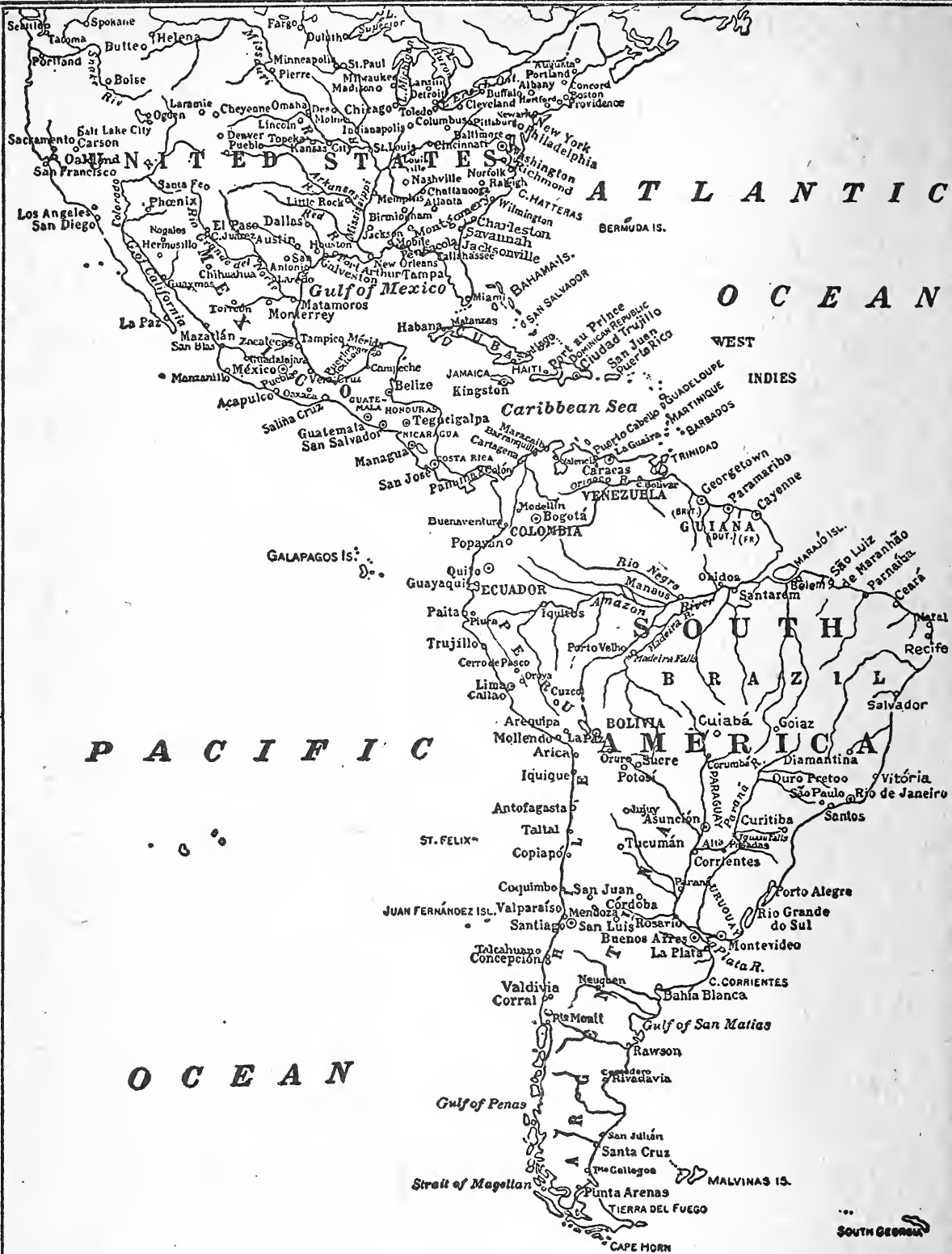
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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: THE HALL OF THE AMERICAS,  
PAN AMERICAN UNION







### SOCIAL SECURITY BUILDING AT SANTIAGO

Forty years ago the Chilean government started a workers' housing program, one of the earliest in this hemisphere.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

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MAY 1946

## Housing Progress in South America

JACOB CRANE

*Special Assistant to the Administrator, United States National Housing Agency*

EARLY this year I visited a number of countries in South America, to talk with officials in housing and urbanism and to explore the possibilities for international cooperation in these fields. The trip was made under the auspices of the State Department and by invitation of these countries. The principal stopping points were in Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. On the way home, I also visited Panama.

In each country there was evidence of an enormous interest in housing, an interest by no means confined to officials and professionals. As elsewhere in the world, critical shortages and bad housing conditions have grown worse during the past six years. The problem has become a major public issue—a cause for concern almost as great as inflation and the rising cost of living. Then, too, the postwar home figures in the dreams and plans of the average South American as of the North American. The people of these

countries share the universal hope for improved living conditions.

In these countries, as elsewhere, government authorities have become increasingly aware of their responsibilities in meeting the housing crisis. I found officials and technicians eager to learn from the experience of other countries and anxious to take whatever steps are necessary to relieve the situation. In the countries visited the interest of governments is principally in workers' housing and this is the aspect to which my trip was mainly devoted.

Discussion and observation this time confirmed my belief, held from previous visits, that the housing problems of these countries are more or less similar; and fundamentally, they are similar to our problems in the United States. We all have things to learn from one another.

I visited all types of housing, from the most up-to-date to the most wretched. I found that once the problem of slums is faced as a universal evil, barriers to free



Courtesy of Clothilde Woodward Smith

#### PLAYGROUND IN A CHILEAN DEVELOPMENT

The author of this article is seen with some happy residents.

discussion are soon overcome. In these countries officials are only too well aware that for every worker's family benefited by decent housing, there are thousands still to be reached. They see the flowering of expensive new villas within and on the borders of their cities, knowing that this is matched by a continuing growth of slums. They know that, in many instances, they are still unable to prevent the formation of new colonies of miserable shacks on the less desirable land. Adequate provisions of water, sewerage, and other facilities are major problems. High urban land costs, shortages of materials and trained labor, high construction costs and limited economic resources present in some cases almost insurmountable difficulties.

Despite the handicaps in several of these countries the workers' housing programs sponsored by the governments are rela-

tively as far advanced as in the United States. Some have had longer experience in this field than we have, notably Chile. All of them are very much interested in United States experience. Many are eager to get materials and equipment again; and they even hope to get houses, or components of houses. Several desire loans from the United States, capital being a critical need. They are also anxious to explore and develop more fully their own sources of materials, and to modernize their building industries. They seek machinery and techniques for this purpose. Each one wishes to exchange professional people and, in several cases, students also.

As in the United States, one central problem is to reduce the initial cost and the annual cost of workers' housing. In many cases housing projects have raised the living standards of moderate-income workers, but have not reached the poorer



families where the need is greatest. For reducing costs, several alternatives are open, and exchange of experience is extremely important on this fundamental point.

The most prevalent method of financing workers' housing in these countries is through the use of social security reserve funds. The experience of Brazil in this respect is extraordinarily interesting, and in projects such as Realengo near Rio de Janeiro the results are outstanding. The national social security agencies are semi-autonomous, with representation of the government and with a degree of responsibility to the Reinsurance Institute and to the Ministry of Labor. There are many of these social security institutes, among the most important being the Institute of Industrial Workers, the Institute of Commercial Workers, and the Institute of Government Employees. These social security agencies have built

up very large reserves, and they use these reserves both for investment purposes and for various social welfare purposes. Housing is considered good both as an investment and as a means of raising the standard of living of the workers. They have very large programs coming on, utilizing the experience of the past; and their work is undoubtedly destined to be among the most important. In Brazil I was also impressed by the good concrete engineering and the ingenuity of design.

Although the results differed widely, financing of housing with social-security funds seemed well accepted. The only qualification I found was the belief that it is better for the agency to own workers' housing than to lend for workers' housing, since ownership is a hedge against inflation, and, of course, inflation is one of the great difficulties.

In Chile and Uruguay the social aspects of housing have been very thoughtfully



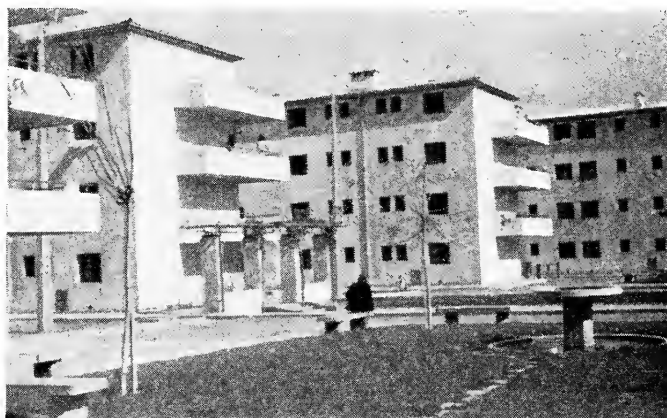
LOW-COST HOUSING IN ARGENTINA

This Buenos Aires project is more than 30 years old.

considered and developed. We can learn from their housing management methods, as we can from the engineering in Brazil. Uruguay's present workers' housing projects are small in size and number. But here, as in Chile, the effort is to provide not only homes but an education in living. Individual gardens are encouraged, and libraries are a popular feature, as well as the more usual services, such as clinics and recreational areas for the children.

In Uruguay as in many places, rural rehabilitation is also a major problem. On a trip to Canelones, in the beautiful country outside of Montevideo, I had a glimpse of some of the difficulties. At the edge of this town is a community of people living

in mud huts, without water or sanitary facilities of any kind. Close by, new housing has been constructed—modest structures, but immeasurably better than the neighboring huts. In a resettlement program undertaken in cooperation with the government's National Housing Institute, it is proposed to offer these new dwellings to the neighboring inhabitants, without cost at the outset. But in some quarters I found that the prospect of moving was viewed with indifference, if not downright distaste. One old *campesino* was adamant. "After all," he told me, "the things which really count in life are *maté* (a kind of South American tea), good conversation, roast meat, and good books."



Courtesy of Clothilde Woodward Smith

#### TWO APARTMENT BUILDINGS

Above: A Santiago multiple dwelling. The Chilean national housing agency arranges for representation of tenants in the management of many of its projects. Below: Social security funds provide shelter for some working families in Quito, Ecuador.



Courtesy of F. Violich

#### LA VICTORIA, A PROJECT BUILT BY THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT AT LIMA

Despite this rural philosopher, the increased self-respect and productiveness of workers who move from slums to new housing is very remarkable indeed. It should be recognized in any program of international cooperation which seeks to build up production and purchasing power.

Chile still leads in the relative extent and scope of its workers' housing program, which now has projects throughout the country, from Punta Arenas, the southernmost city, to the northern desert. Yet in spite of the great efforts made to combat it, Chile still has a tremendous slum problem. Efforts are now being made to modernize and expedite building methods. Labor arrangements on some projects offer special incentives for work done well and rapidly. In Chile, I was particularly impressed by the degree of representation of the tenants in the councils and operation of the *Caja de la Habitación*,

the country's national housing agency.

Just coming into existence was Peru's new National Housing Corporation, which has a big program in prospect. Preliminary work has begun on a site which I visited just outside of Lima. Here neighborhood planning for a large-scale workers' housing project is progressive and extensive.

In Colombia the major part of the work is carried out by the country's principal housing agency—the *Instituto de Crédito Territorial*. It is concerned with both urban and rural housing. In addition to providing homes throughout Colombia, this organization now contemplates a supplementary program for agricultural and social education.

In Ecuador, the *Cajas* (social security funds) for workers in all categories have provided money for housing, and in many cases the houses are built and owned by the *Cajas*. Here, in even greater degree



Photographs by I. A. P. I.

# WORKERS' HOUSING AT THE REALENGO PROJECT, NEAR RIO DE JANEIRO

Above: An apartment building financed through social security reserve funds.  
Below: The school and child care center.

than in some of the other countries, a major problem is to secure facilities, such as water supply and sewerage connections, from the municipalities.

Tradition tends to hold back new methods in housing in Latin America, as it does nearly everywhere else. In organization and planning, however, it seemed to me that advances had been made since my previous visit in 1941. Among new projects now in prospect is Panama's program for twin houses for workers' families to be built this year outside of Panama City, with social security funds loaned to the Banco de Urbanización. Venezuela's Banco Obrero contemplates construction of 40,000 new workers' dwellings to be built within the next decade.

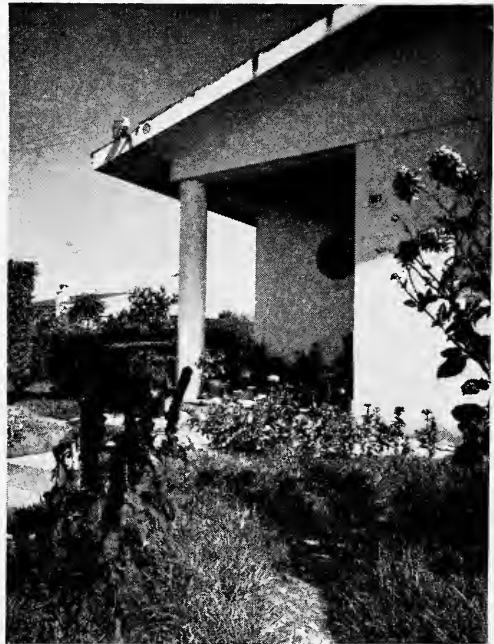
In almost all these countries, there is still no over-all national housing agency and no over-all national housing program. The experience of the United States in this respect may be valuable to them.

In conversation with workers and their families, it developed that in general they seemed to desire homes of types resembling those of the well-to-do in their communities. The desire for home ownership is strong, although the concept of "home security" is gradually becoming accepted.

I saw many instances of enterprise and ingenuity displayed by workers who had constructed and decorated their homes themselves. This leads me to believe that schemes based on provision of materials and facilities and of instruction and technical aid have not been sufficiently explored. The principle of "land and utilities housing," developed in Puerto Rico and in Venezuela, for example, is probably susceptible of wide adaptation and use. The principle referred to is based on the proposition that the land and utilities (water supply, sewerage, etc.) are provided by a public agency at a very low rental to insure the workers complete se-

curity in the occupancy and use of a piece of land and to provide them with that primary essential, sanitary facilities. Then the individual family is permitted to build its own house on the plot of ground, and, under certain regulations, to improve the house from time to time as it is found possible to do so. Assistance may be given in the way of materials and technical advice. This arrangement is particularly useful in tropical climates, where the land and the sanitation are the most important elements for satisfactory dwellings and where the character of the house itself is somewhat less important and may in fact be quite primitive. There are many variations of this principle. Similar schemes have been developed in Sweden and in the British West Indies.

Another point which struck me is that the importance of community facilities in



Courtesy of the Uruguayan Ministry of Social Security

#### A MONTEVIDEO GARDEN

Individual plantings are a feature of a carefully planned Uruguayan development.

large-scale housing projects is more firmly established in Latin America than in the United States. In fact, the experience of some of these countries in this respect should be useful the world over.

In every country I visited I found strong spontaneous interest in the possibility of a world organization for housing and urbanism, through which the exchange of information and experience, and of resources, both technical and material, could be facilitated. In the countries with problems peculiar to tropical housing I found keen interest in the prospect of an institute for special study of these problems. Correspondence with this in view is now going on among officials and professionals in these countries and with an interested group in Puerto Rico. There was also concern that arrangements be

carried out for continuance of inter-American conferences on housing and urbanism. It was the consensus that there was need for an inter-American publication in this field, and for an exchange of exhibitions as well as publications.

In conclusion, it seems to me clear that it is in the interest of all of us to develop cooperation in housing and urbanism among the countries of America to the fullest extent possible. I am confident that their desire to effect arrangements for these purposes is very strong and that they are prepared to carry their share of the cost of such cooperation. Beyond the utilitarian and humanitarian aspects, cooperation in this field constitutes an excellent means of strengthening international ties, particularly during these years of housing crisis throughout the world.



Courtesy of the Instituto de Credito Territorial, Colombia

#### RURAL HOME IN COLOMBIA

A special office in the Colombian Ministry of Finance makes long-term loans for home building.



# João Carlos Muniz

## *Representative of Brazil on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

JOÃO CARLOS MUNIZ, one of Brazil's most competent and best-known diplomats, has recently been appointed to represent his country on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

An outstanding lawyer and journalist as well as a career diplomat, Senhor Muniz holds a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Rio de Janeiro, and a doctorate in juridical sciences from New York University. He is thoroughly at home in English. He was born in Cuiabá, Mato Grosso, on March 31, 1893.

During the past twenty years Senhor Muniz has represented Brazil in an extensive series of international conferences, including: the Congress of the Association of Advertising Clubs of the World held in London in 1924; the Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Washington, 1925; the International Police Conference in New York, 1925; the Bankers' Conference in Philadelphia, 1926; the International Civil Aeronautics Conference in Washington, 1928; the Sixth International Conference of American States in Habana in 1928; the 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd Sessions of the International Labor Conference, held in Geneva, as well as the meeting held in New York in 1941; the Second American Conference of National Committees of Intellectual Cooperation at Habana in 1941; and the Food and Agriculture Conference in Hot Springs, 1943.

Equally impressive is the list of posts he has held in the Brazilian diplomatic corps and at home in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was Consul in London in 1931; in Baltimore in 1932; in Warsaw in



1933; and in Geneva in 1934. In the latter year he also served as Counselor at the Brazilian Embassy in Washington. In 1938 he became Chief of Economic Services in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and also a member of the efficiency commission of this Ministry and of the committee on the agenda for the Eighth International Conference of American States. The year 1941 found him acting as Chairman of the Council on Immigration and Colonization, and as Minister in Habana. In 1942 he was Special Ambassador to the inauguration of President Alfonso López of Colombia and Ambassador in Ecuador. He served as Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1945.

This wealth of experience has given

Senhor Muniz a deep knowledge of social, economic, and cultural affairs throughout the Americas, and augurs well for his success in his new post. His progressive and

original ideas will be a valuable contribution to the Governing Board at a moment when it is facing the difficult problems of this crucial period in world history.

## Volta Redonda Opens New Economic Cycle for Brazil

JOSÉ SILVADO BUENO

*Foreign Trade Adviser, Pan American Union*

BRAZIL is tuned in on Volta Redonda. This is one of its great wartime industrial achievements. It would be a good-sized steel mill in the United States but for Brazil it is an undertaking of great proportions and the largest plant in all Latin America. It is located in the State of Rio de Janeiro, near Barra Mansa, about 90 miles from the capital and about 200 from São Paulo.

Volta Redonda is ready to start production. Not the entire plant, however, but enough to produce about 300,000 tons of steel during the present year. The capacity under full production will be about one million tons a year. Now awaiting the signal to start operations is a battery of 55 coke ovens, a blast furnace, three open-hearth furnaces, and a blooming mill. These installations make up more than 50 per cent of the initial plant equipment.

Upon completion of the mill, the Brazilian Government will institute an ambitious program for expanding its domestic production of rails, railroad cars, farm machinery, tractors, motors, bridges, construction steel, boilers, heavy chemicals, etc. It will mean the country's economic emancipation.

The smelting of iron ore is not new in Brazil. It dates back to the year 1556, when the colonists began to extract iron ore by rudimentary methods and to smelt it for making axes, hoes, wedges, fishhooks, and other implements. During the 18th century several attempts were made to produce iron in São Paulo and Minas Gerais but the discovery of gold and precious stones deviated the interests of the colonists. This was the period when the *Bandeirantes*, searching for the precious metal, diamonds, and emeralds, invaded the land as far west as the region today known as the States of Goiaz and Mato Grosso. Many of the flourishing cities of those States were founded by these daring pioneers.

When the Portuguese Regent fled Europe to avoid capture by the hordes of Napoleon and set up his court in Brazil, there was a renewed interest in the iron industry. Several plants were built in São Paulo and Minas Gerais with the aid of two German metallurgists, Varnhagen and Eschwege, and a Frenchman, Monlevade. Some of these plants were closed for lack of sufficient raw materials to justify the growth of an





### THE VOLTA REDONDA IRON AND STEEL PLANT

Brazil is proud of its new plant, the largest in the country, which will make steel plate, large pieces, and heavy rails, leaving lighter work to the mills already in operation. The plant itself cost about \$70,500,000, for which the Export-Import Bank of Washington lent \$45,000,000. All equipment was bought in the United States. Expenditures for mines, housing, and additional facilities bring the total investment to more than \$100,000,000.



Courtesy of the Companhia Siderurgica Nacional

### BLAST FURNACE, TRESTLE, AND ORE YARD

Eight miles of track were built for the railroad yards at Volta Redonda. This construction was part of the Government's contribution, which included also other railway spurs, a station, and an airport at Volta Redonda.

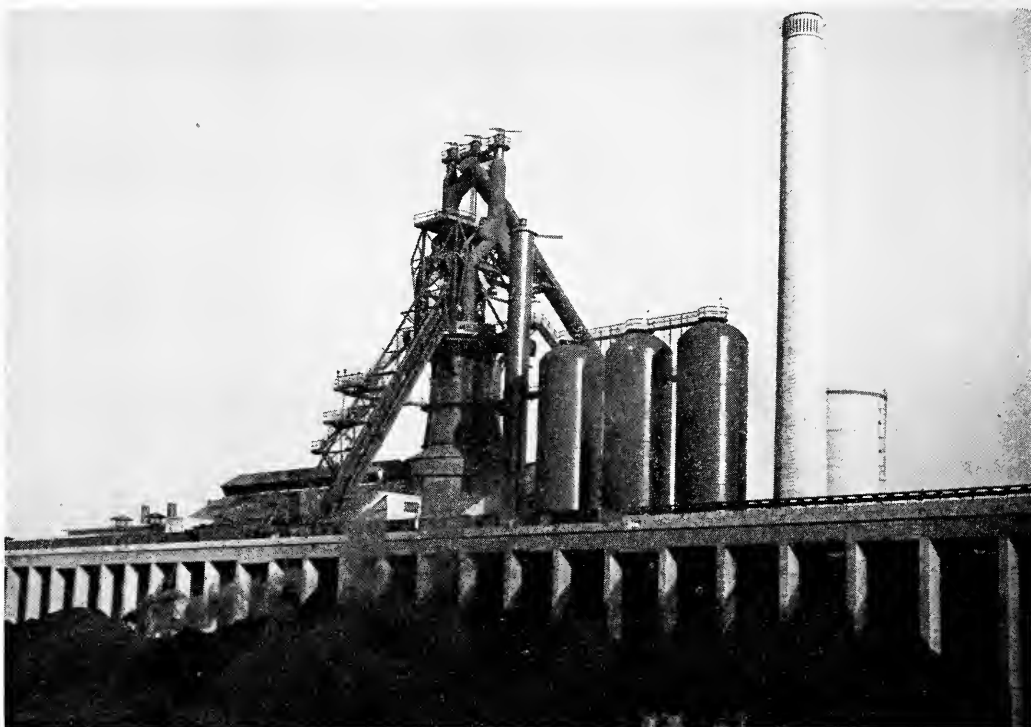
economically sound iron and steel industry.

In 1875 a school of mining was started in Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, giving rise to a new approach to Brazilian problems of mineral production. Several foreign technicians were engaged to study and work with Brazilian specialists. Their studies encouraged the establishment of a number of steel plants, among them the Queiroz Junior mills in Esperança and Burnier, now growing concerns using their own ore, manganese, and charcoal in the production of fine steels and giving work to thousands of workers; the Companhia Siderurgica Belgo-Mineira with mills in Sabará and Presidente Vargas; the Companhia de Mineração e Meta-

lurgica, near São Paulo; and the Companhia Brasileira de Industrias Metalurgicas with plants in Morro Grande and Neves, State of Rio de Janeiro.

Volta Redonda spells the beginning of a new era in the industrial evolution of Brazil. The problem in its greater and national aspects had been confined to press and parliamentary debates until 1938 when President Vargas, having legislative as well as executive power, decreed the first steps which would bring Volta Redonda into existence.

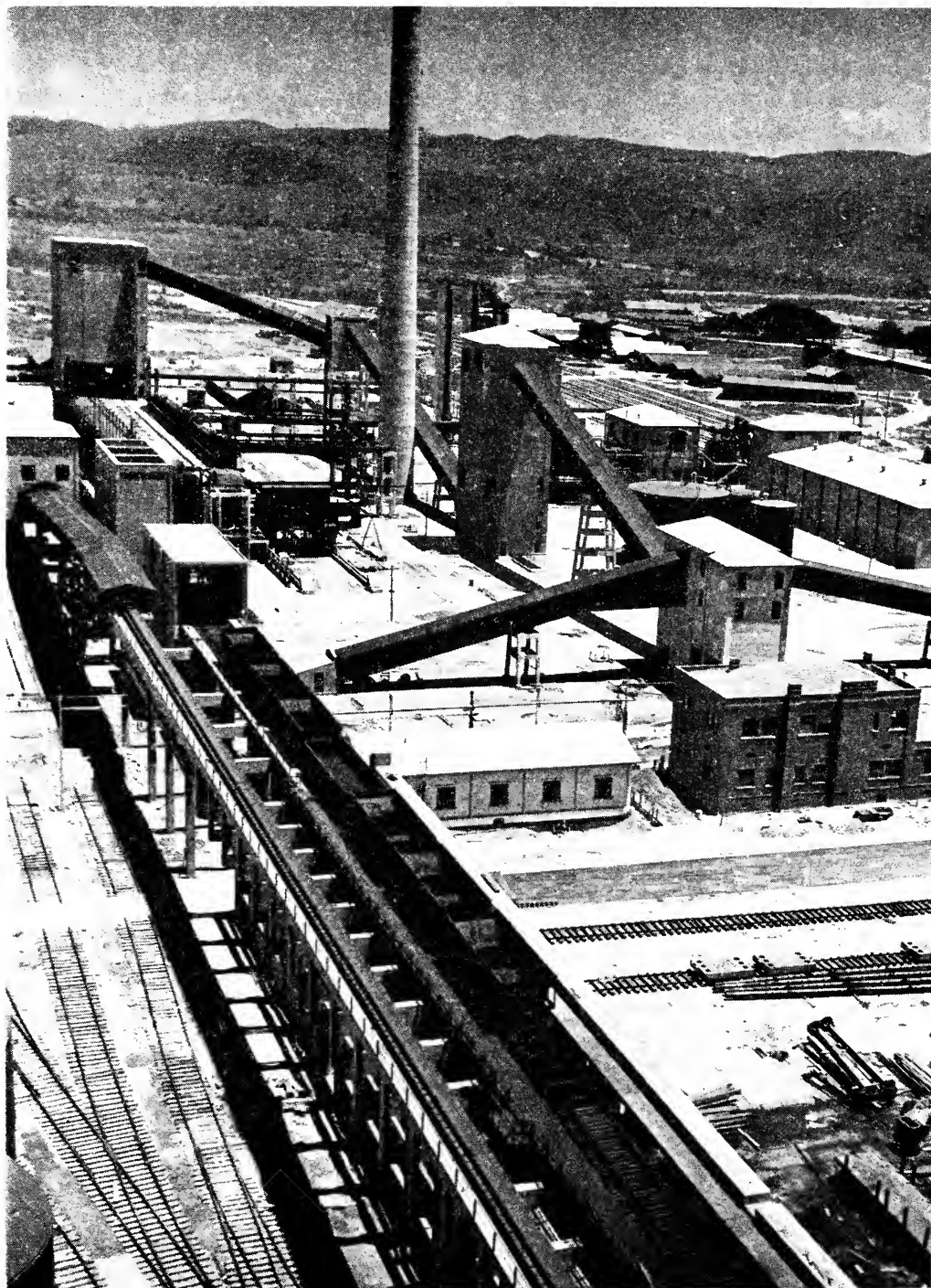
The problem had been studied both in Europe and in the United States. Coal from deposits in the State of Santa Catarina, estimated at 400 billion tons,



Courtesy of the Companhia Siderurgica Nacional

#### THE BLAST FURNACE

The chief coal supply for Volta Redonda will come from a mine in the State of Santa Catarina owned by the National Iron and Steel Company, and reported to have a large reserve. Production is expected to be about 30,000 tons a month. A steam electric plant was built to permit mechanization of mine operations.



Courtesy of the Companhia Siderurgica Nacional

#### A COKE OVEN

The coal tar produced in obtaining coke will be the source of many useful byproducts, such as benzol, toluol, and naphtha.

was found to make good coke. Manganese is abundant. And the iron deposits, of high metallic content, are estimated to contain about 112 billion tons. The iron from this source alone would be sufficient to supply the world for one hundred years!

In 1942, the building of the principal installations was begun. These were to consist of coke ovens, blast and open-hearth furnaces, a blooming mill, rail and structural steel mill, plate mill, hot- and cold-strip mills. On the site, the construction of plant foundations, railroad yards, electrical supply, and buildings for repair shops, machine shops, stores and other maintenance services were already under way.

To complete its work Volta Redonda still employs 112 engineers, 110 draftsmen,

17,000 day laborers. Of these, 2,500 have been sent to Santa Catarina to work in the coal preparation plant which has been erected near the mines, whence the treated coal will be shipped by rail and steamer to Volta Redonda. At the mill itself, the coking plant will produce coal tar which will yield the usual byproducts, such as sulphate of ammonia, tar, benzol, toluol, xylol, and naphtha. These are valuable raw materials which Brazil needs for new and important industries.

In the over-all evaluation of Volta Redonda one must make special reference to the housing and welfare for so large a number of workers. A regular town has been built to accommodate Volta Redonda's population. There are 72 residences for engineers and chiefs of adminis-



Courtesy of the Companhia Siderurgica Nacional

#### A HOME AT VOLTA REDONDA

Building the town with houses, schools, hotels, and stores and supplying it with good water, light, and sewerage cost about \$10,000,000.

### A CRANE IN OPERATION

Volta Redonda occupies a well chosen site, within 140 miles of iron and coal mines and limestone deposits. It has an excellent water supply in the Paraiba River, from which it draws daily once and a half as much water as the city of Rio de Janeiro uses.



Courtesy of the Companhia Siderurgica Nacional

trative staffs; 500 houses for office employees and others; 1,878 houses for mill workers; 120 rooming and boarding establishments; two hotels; two primary schools for 2,800 children; one high school; one technical school; and business blocks, churches, parks, sports fields, an airport, etc.

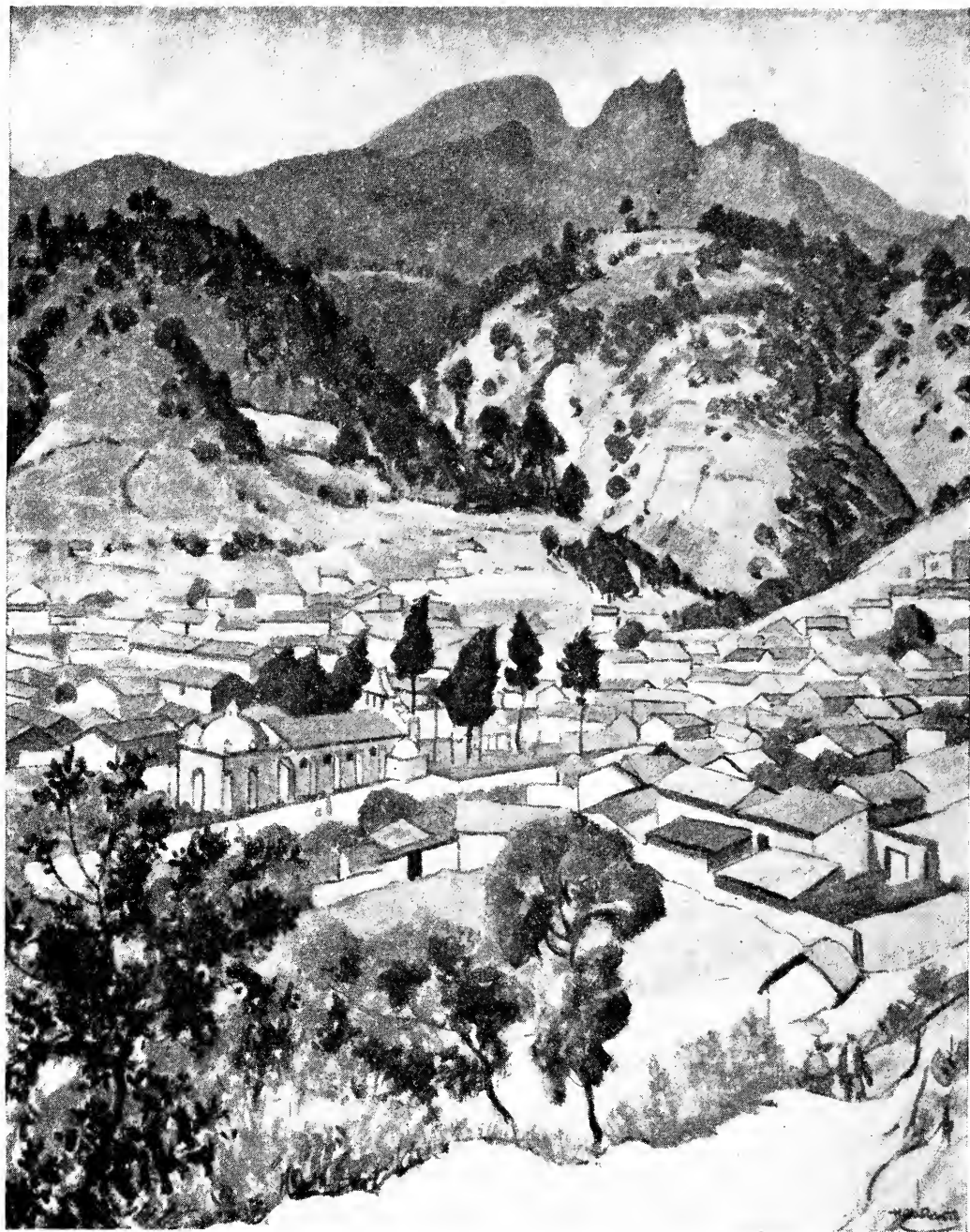
Two years ago ex-President Getulio Vargas, the inspirer and guiding spirit of Volta Redonda, declared in a public address: "The fundamental problems of our economy will soon be on a new basis. The semicolonial agrarian country, importer of manufactured goods and exporter of raw materials, will be able to meet the requirements of an autonomous industrial

life, providing its own most urgent defense and equipment needs."

Volta Redonda, modern steel mill and made-to-order industrial town, is ready to begin its life in the battle of production. It will be not only a milestone of our civilization but, as President Vargas declared, "a monumental testimonial of the capacity of our people, instituting, as it will, a new standard of living and a new mentality in our country."

The victory of Volta Redonda will mean a prosperous Brazil. In turn, the prosperity of that mighty southern giant will add to our America's own prosperity, for healthy trade can grow only when we deal with progressive and wealthy customers.





Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

GARAVITO: ALMOLONGA

# Paintings by Humberto Garavito

LILLY DE JONGH OSBORNE

*Member of the Guatemalan Society of Geography and History*

FROM December 5 to 14, 1945, Humberto Garavito, the well known Guatemalan artist, exhibited forty of his paintings at the National Academy of Fine Arts in Guatemala City. By birth, Humberto Garavito is from Quezaltenango; he started painting when he was ten years old, under the guidance of Joaquín Gutiérrez, a commercial artist. The latter fostered Garavito's natural instinct to continue

studying art, although for many years art for art's sake was little recompensed in Guatemala.

A proof that Garavito's art has been recognized is that the greater part of his pictures have been bought for collections in the United States, and that others have been sold to art lovers in Panama and the Central American countries.

Among the forty pictures in the recent



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

INDIANS FROM SANTA CATARINA



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

#### A FIESTA DAY AT SANTA CATARINA PALOPÓ

#### A MAN FROM SAN MARTÍN

exhibit, the majority were landscapes of Guatemala and figures of its colorful Indians. The artist's masterly touch set down faithfully the golden sunsets against green hills and volcanoes; the azure waters of Lake Atitlán; the multicolored gala costumes of the Indians at a holiday celebration; the windswept plains in browns and yellows showing the baked and naked earth; and Satanic upheavals which fissured the volcanoes' rugged sides. Then there were shown the architectural beauties of Antigua's ruined colonial churches,



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne



which are invested with legends of that forgotten era; a market in a little-known region where the inhabitants adhere to their tribal costumes and customs, according to their forefathers' tenets; and above all, the Chichicastenango Indians amidst their soul-satisfying Indian life. The picture called *El señor alcalde* merited special attention. His austere and forbidding countenance watches over his flock who, despite the influence of tourists, must not change their old traditions; *el señor alcalde* most emphatically considers it his duty to

see that every iota of the ancient rites is observed.

A proof that Guatemala has progressed along the path of artistic appreciation is that Garavito's paintings were sold within a few days. The country now is very conscious of its artists and its unusual beauties of landscape, villages, and people, and therefore encourages these expositions.

Coinciding with the exhibit, there appeared on the market an album containing six of Garavito's best pictures in color reproductions.



Courtesy of Lilly de Jongh Osborne

VIEW OF LAKE ATITLÁN

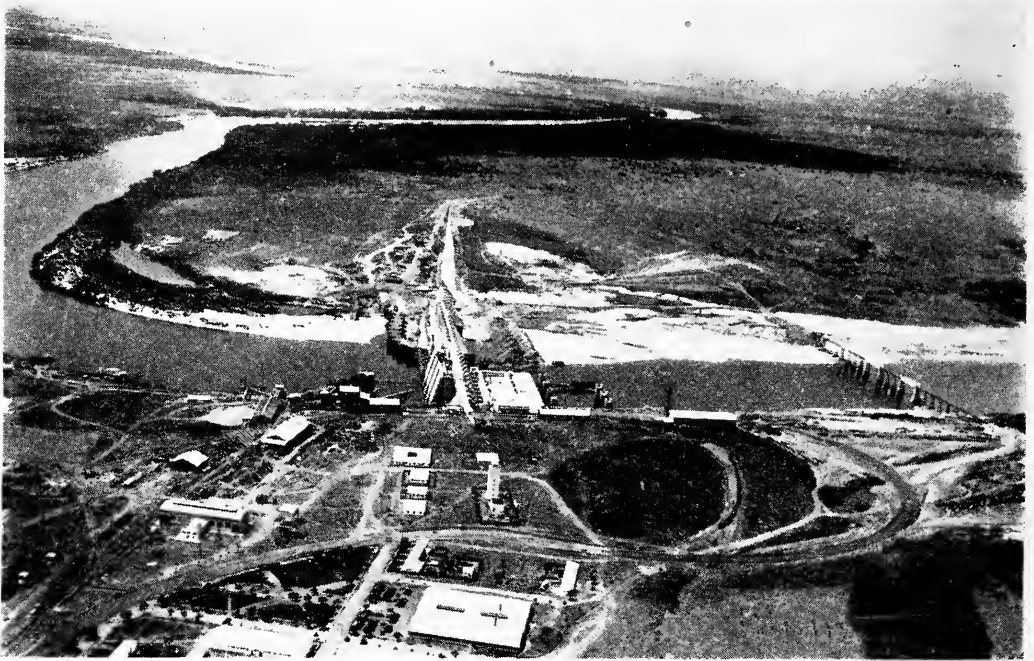
# Uruguay's Big Power Development

ON December 26, 1945, the wheels began to turn in the great Río Negro power project in Uruguay. The first generating unit at Rincón del Bonete was officially opened on that date by the President of the Republic, Dr. Juan José Amézaga, at a ceremony attended by cabinet ministers, other government officials, and the United States Ambassador in Uruguay.

This enormous enterprise, one of the largest of its kind in the continent, has been in the building since September 1937. In the beginning the work was given over to the Consal (German Consortium), with which group the Uruguayan Government signed a contract in April 1937. The Consortium was composed of five com-

panies, three in Germany and two in Buenos Aires, each of which was charged with different parts of the installation and supply job. The Uruguayan Government shared in the work, too, and as time went by, the capacity of Uruguayan technicians to take over and bring the work to completion was evidenced when the contract with the Consal was rescinded in May 1942 as a result of the war.

The director of the work, Luis Giorgi, former dean of engineering at the University of Uruguay, spent 14 months in the United States studying similar projects, such as TVA, and working with the State Department, the War Production Board, and the Export-Import Bank of Washing-



Courtesy of Rione

## RINCÓN DEL BONETE

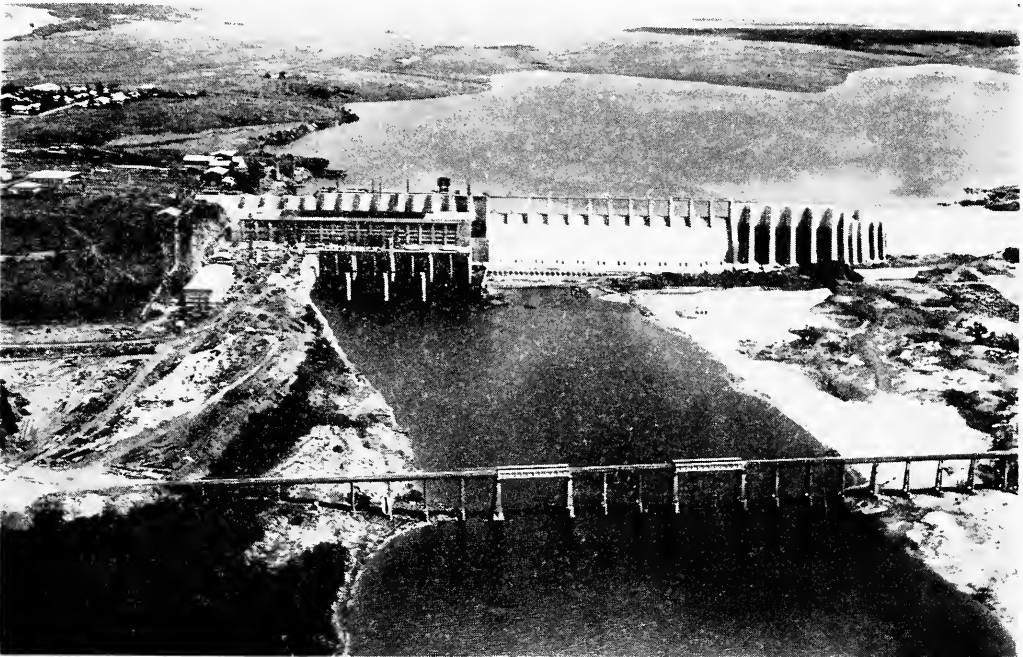
General view of the river and the dam while construction was still in progress.

ton to obtain priorities, technical assistance, and loans. On April 22, 1942, the Export-Import Bank made a loan of \$12,000,000 to the Republic of Uruguay for materials, equipment, and services for the Río Negro project. As of December 31, 1945, \$5,776,179 of that amount had been disbursed.

The Río Negro, largest river in Uruguay, has its source in Brazil, and flows across Uruguay in a southwesterly direction. Rincón del Bonete is located about five miles above Paso de los Toros, in the west central part of the country, on the border between the Departments of Durazno and Tacuarembó. The first unit of the plant is now sending electric power to certain residential sections of Montevideo, to the industrial area, including the National Packing Plant, and all along the route of the central Montevideo-Rivera

highway, serving small towns and the cities of Canelones and Florida, from the capital to the La Cruz district, some 75 miles to the north. The power produced at Rincón del Bonete goes to Montevideo through two independent transmission lines, each 150 miles long. These lines will be connected with the city's already existing power system, which will enable the joint network to supply other outlying communities, some of them as much as 80 miles beyond the city.

The second generating unit is expected to be in operation early in April 1946, the third by March 1947, and the fourth and last by December 1947. When the project is completed, Rincón del Bonete, together with the present plants of Montevideo, will produce 537 million kilowatt hours of electric energy per year. Of this, Río Negro will supply about 88 percent.



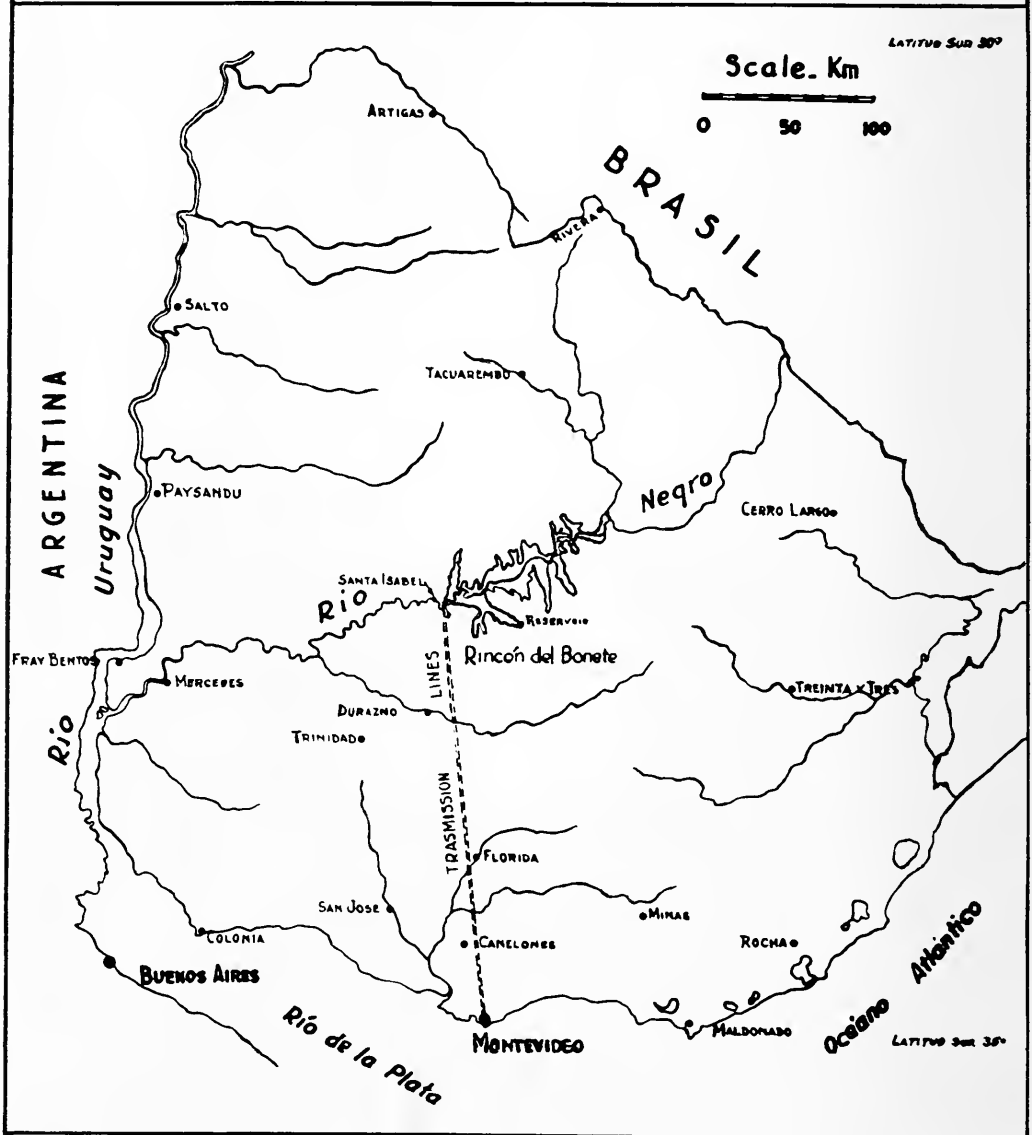
Courtesy of Rione

THE DAM AS VIEWED FROM THE DOWN-STREAM SIDE

The lake is seen forming above the dam

# MAP OF URUGUAY. South América.

Showing RINCON DEL BONETE, Rincón del Bonete reservoir  
and the 2-150kV lines from Rincón del Bonete to Montevideo



Courtesy of Rione

## MAP OF URUGUAY

The location of the dam and the two transmission lines that serve the Montevideo area are shown here.

The economic importance of this gigantic project to the Republic of Uruguay is easily apparent to even the most casual eye. Uruguay is a country poor in native fuels, a circumstance that has placed it in the position of having to depend on foreign sources for the production of energy. During the war, maritime traffic difficulties led to the exhaustion of the nation's fuel reserves to such an extreme that at times paralysis of electric power plants was feared. The power stations had to resort to burning large amounts of corn to keep their service at needed levels. This, of course, was an economic waste, and gave even more reason for expediting completion of the Río Negro project. When the war started, the dam was about 90 percent completed, but no work had

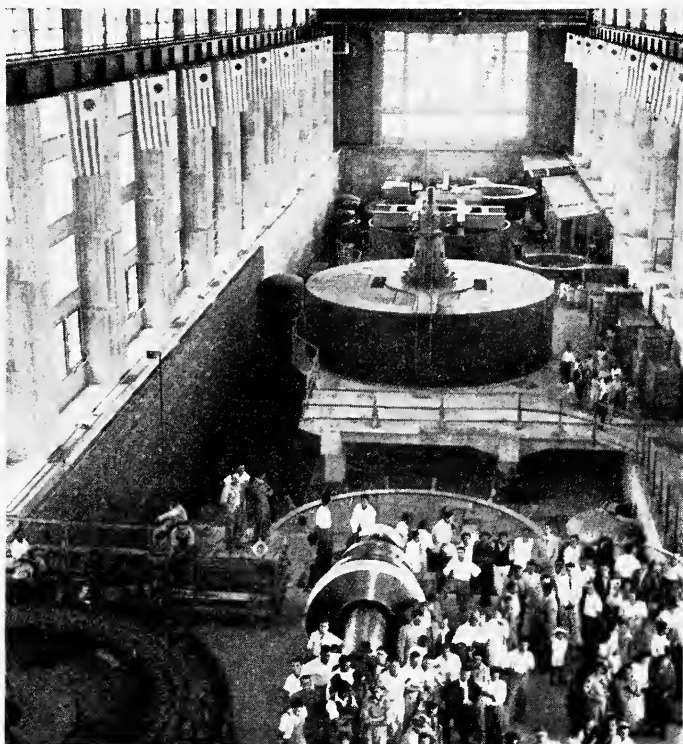
yet been done on the powerhouse superstructure.

The entry into public service of the power plant is a great step forward. Completion of the entire project will mean light, power, water, irrigation, new roads, agricultural and industrial development over a wide area; in short, it will be an immeasurably valuable contribution to the economic and social progress not only of the metropolitan area but of the whole nation as well.

The Río Negro project was first conceived and promoted in 1904 by the Uruguayan engineer Victor B. Sudriers, who has fathered it since that date and is vice president of the board of directors. Various investigations, reports, and estimates have been made by Uruguayan and foreign engineers since 1909, when daily stream-

#### RINCÓN DEL BONETE POWERHOUSE

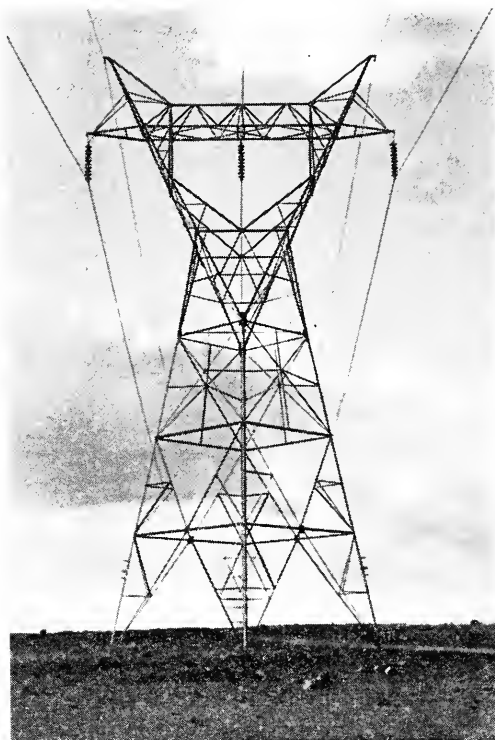
Interior view when the first unit, seen in the foreground, was put into operation. Parts of the second unit, also seen in the picture, were then being assembled.



Courtesy of Rione

flow reports were first inaugurated. The final study, general plans and specifications upon which the project was financed in 1937, were prepared by Professor Adolf Ludin of Germany. From the date of

financing, the project has been ably prosecuted under the management of Luis Giorgi, mentioned above, and a staff and board of directors of former professors and students of the University of Uruguay.



Courtesy of Rione

#### TRANSMISSION TOWER

Two 150-mile transmission lines send power to Montevideo.

# Mexican Irrigation Commission

DOROTHY M. TERCERO

*Assistant Editor, BULLETIN of the Pan American Union*

AT THE beginning of January 1946 the National Irrigation Commission of Mexico completed twenty years of existence. To mark the occasion the Government devoted its National Radio Hour on January 6 to the Commission and its accomplishments. Addresses were given during the program by the Honorable Marte R. Gómez, Secretary of Agriculture; Ingeniero Adolfo Orive Alva, Executive Adviser of the Commission; and Ingeniero Luis León, who was Secretary of Agriculture in the cabinet of President Calles. Under Señor León's direction the preliminary studies were made that led to the establishment of the Commission in 1926, and he was its first Chairman.

Some of the history, facts, and figures brought out in the three addresses are summarized herewith:

The need for large-scale irrigation in Mexico is of course undeniable. Approximately 93 percent of the country's surface is arid, semi-arid, or semi-humid; that is, it lacks sufficient rainfall to assure every year the growth of the crops without irrigation. Unfortunately, the remaining 7 percent of the total surface area, where there is enough rainfall to make irrigation unnecessary, is located in coastal tropical regions that are none too healthful.

This need for irrigation has been recognized by men of the soil in Mexico since long before the coming of Cortés. There still exist traces of irrigation works constructed by the early inhabitants; during the three centuries of Spanish dominion many such works were installed; and still others were constructed even during the

turbulent days of the war for independence. The Díaz Government was interested in the problem, but failed to solve it adequately. During that period the Government granted water rights through concessions to the great landowners, giving them, furthermore, liberal financial aid through the Loan Bank (*Caja de Préstamos*). In 1910 the country had some 1,977,000 acres under irrigation, about 80 percent of which was irrigated by works constructed during colonial days.

It became apparent that private capital could not profitably be applied to great irrigation projects, and the leaders of the Revolution (begun in 1910) agreed that the State itself was the only agency that could successfully undertake solution of the problem. By 1926 the Revolution had advanced to a stage that permitted it to begin constructive work. On January 9 of that year, the Law on Irrigation with Federal Waters was published, assigning to the State the duty of constructing irrigation works. The National Irrigation Commission was forthwith organized and began immediately to develop a program of construction studied, planned, and directed by its own technical personnel and financed by government funds. Irrigation districts as set up under the law have two main functions, one economic and the other social. The former is aimed at increasing the volume of national agricultural production, and the latter at creating and developing a more advanced campesino class, with more initiative, more resources and experience, and greater ambitions, to serve as an example for

greater progress among all the campesinos of the country.

The work carried on by the Commission since its beginning can be separated into four periods:

*1926-28.* With an average annual budget of 20 million pesos and without the advantage of complete studies and highly specialized personnel, the Commission was still able to get seven large projects under way.

*1929-34.* With its average annual budget reduced to 10 million pesos because of the economic crisis the nation was then experiencing, the seven projects already started were continued, five new ones undertaken, and the process of colonization and the development of agricultural production in the areas opened by these projects were begun.

*1935-40.* During this period, as a result of President Lázaro Cárdenas' keen interest in the betterment of the rural population and his effective action on behalf of that group, the Irrigation Commission was given a much more important status in the Government's general program. Its average annual budget was raised to more than 30 million pesos, so that in addition to continuing unfinished projects, it began construction of the three great dams, El Palmito, La Angostura, and El Azúcar, in the States of Durango, Sonora, and Tamaulipas, respectively, and of 21 more projects scattered over the country.

*1941-46.* President Ávila Camacho's great interest in furthering the work of the Commission was evidenced by the annual appropriations allocated to it during his administration. These have been as follows: 1941, 55 million pesos; 1942, 65 million; 1943, 85 million; 1944, 107 million; 1945, 155 million; and 1946,

189 million, the latter figure being more than 15 percent of the total 1946 federal budget. With this sum at its disposal during the current year, the Commission will be able to speed up the projects already under way and to undertake several new large-scale works. In the period 1941-45 alone, almost 900,000 acres were irrigated or improved; by the end of 1946, the Commission expects to have completed work that will irrigate or improve approximately 800,000 acres more. Thus, in contrast to the seven projects with which the Commission began its labors in 1926, it is now working on 54 large projects and 60 small ones.

Part of the Commission's work is done by Commission personnel itself; some of it is constructed under contract. This procedure has often led to greater economy and certainly to faster progress.

In addition to its actual construction work, the Commission also engages in the constant and systematic study of soil and water resources; the design and construction of irrigation works that at the same time may be used for the generation of electric power; the construction of flood control works; the operation, conservation, colonization, and supervision of agricultural development projects in completed or partially completed irrigation districts; and, finally, the new great task of soil conservation.

The tasks with which the Irrigation Commission is entrusted are multiple, and every one of them is fundamental to national development. On its twentieth birthday the Commission was able to look back on a record of good and faithful service to the nation, and to look forward to a future that promises even more accomplishment and progress.



# Rural Education Program in Bolivia

LLOYD H. HUGHES

*Education Officer, Office of Inter-American Affairs*

THE Bolivian Ministry of Education has recently completed a thorough-going reorganization of the department of rural education, with the assistance of Ernest E. Maes, Special Representative of the Inter-American Educational Foundation, Inc.<sup>1</sup> The objectives of the reform were to bring together in one department all the rural education activities of the Ministry of Education, to reorient the curriculum toward a more functional type of rural education, to improve the preparation and training of rural teachers, to interest rural schools in the life and problems of the communities in which they are located, and to make available to rural schools better types of equipment and teaching materials.

The development of closer educational relations among the Americas has been an integral part of the work of the Office of Inter-American Affairs since its establishment in August 1940. The Inter-American Educational Foundation, Inc., was established by the Office of Inter-American Affairs on September 25, 1943, because it was realized that one of the real and most lasting bases for inter-American understanding is the attainment of improved educational opportunities and the raising of standards of living throughout the hemisphere.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Maes was formerly Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Indian Institute and Director of the Inter-American Division of the United States Indian Office. He is one of the outstanding authorities on Indian Affairs in the United States and in the other American republics. Prior to his service in the Indian Office, he was State Supervisor of Adult Education in Colorado.

The first step in the program of reorganization was a functional analysis of Bolivia's rural education system made jointly by the Ministry of Education and the Inter-American Educational Foundation. This analysis brought to light the following data:

1. The distinction made between rural education and Indian education was based on the fact that methods employed in Indian education were expected to be different from those employed in rural education. Indian education was supposed to be more functional and practical and less formal and academic than rural education. The distinction was never based on the racial character of the students. Inasmuch as the Ministry of Education has decided to make all rural education functional and practical, the former distinction between rural and Indian education has become meaningless and artificial.

2. Rural education operated as a dual system, composed of rural schools under the supervision of the chiefs of departmental school districts and *núcleos escolares campesinos*, rural school centers, under the supervision of the Department of Indian Affairs. These *núcleos* consisted of a number of small schools grouped around a large central school. The central schools are located in the larger towns and the smaller schools are scattered among the Quechua, Aymara and Guaraní villages. At first they proposed merely to teach the Indians to read and write, but today they are stressing vocational and community



AN OUTDOOR MEAL

Knit caps that cover the ears are generally worn by Indians on the high Bolivian plateau, where the cold is often intense.

education. In the central schools the children are taught trades, scientific farming, and reading and writing in their native tongue and also in Spanish. In the outlying schools an effort is made to relate education to community needs and to raise the local standard of living. The teachers for the two systems were trained in the same rural normal schools and received substantially the same kind of instruction. The organization of rural education on

the basis of the *núcleos escolares campesinos* was found to be better adapted to the social and geographic conditions of Bolivia than the system based on the unitary rural school. The reason for this is that the *núcleos* provide a mechanism through which the essential supervision needed by the rural school teachers, most of whom require close supervision because of their inadequate training, can be given with the least possible personnel. In addition, the

*núcleos* provide the rural teachers with essential cultural contacts which otherwise they would not have. The placing of all rural schools under the jurisdiction of these centers will make it possible to provide technical instruction and supervision in the basic fields for all rural teachers, with a relatively small number of technically trained personnel working out of the central school of each *núcleo*.

3. At present the only rural school teachers who are receiving adequate supervision are those attached to the *núcleos*. The regular rural school teachers, numbering nearly 2,000 and representing nearly 85 per cent of all rural teachers, receive very little supervision.

4. The actual curriculum of the rural schools, including the *núcleos*, is formal and traditional and not functional. It stresses academic subjects and literary training rather than practical subjects and training for more efficient production and better living. A completely revised and re-oriented curriculum is necessary if the schools are to contribute their just share toward the solution of the basic community problems.

5. The rural normal schools place too much stress on academic and humanistic subjects. None of these schools offers courses in agriculture, home economics, practice teaching, or health education.

6. The rural schools of both types and the normal schools lack teaching and reference materials.

7. Teachers' salaries are exceedingly low, amounting to only 3,000 bolivianos (\$70.80) per month for principals of normal and rural schools.

On the basis of this analysis, a reorganization of rural education was worked out jointly by the Ministry of Education and the Foundation. The reorganized plan provided for: 1, the abolition of the dual rural education system; 2, the development

of a functional curriculum; 3, the expansion of the normal school program; 4, the creation of a cultural service for rural areas; 5, the preparation and distribution of better teaching materials; 6, studies of the Aymara and Quechua communities of the altiplano and valleys; 7, salary increases for teachers and supervisory personnel; and 8, cooperation with the Ministries of Agriculture and Health and the Bolivian Development Corporation.

It has been agreed that the dual rural education system should be merged into a single system based on the *núcleos escolares campesinos*. For this purpose, it was decided as a first step to create twenty more independent *núcleos* and four others, one to be attached to each of the rural normal schools, so that 41 such centers would be scattered throughout the country. All of the unitary rural schools are to be converted into sectional schools dependent on one of the *núcleos*.

In order to orient the rural curriculum toward a more functional type of education, it was agreed that the Minister should name a committee to study and revise the curriculum. The committee in due course was appointed and included seven educators from within and without the Ministry. It was named "The National Committee for the Study of the Rural Curriculum." Its first activity was the development of interest on the part of rural teachers in making the curriculum more functional. This was done through an essay contest, open only to rural teachers, on the subject: "How can the rural education curriculum be reoriented to serve the needs of Bolivia's rural population more effectively?" The contest was participated in by teachers from every region in Bolivia. When the four winners are selected, they will be brought to La Paz for one month to work with the committee on the new rural curriculum.

A RURAL SCHOOL IN  
BOLIVIA

This plan was adopted because it was felt that the curriculum should be created by the teachers themselves and not by the Ministry.

It is proposed to add to the rural normal course a fourth year, which will offer training in a practical functional field. In the case of men, this practical training will center on agriculture and in the case of women on home visiting and social service. All fourth-year men students will attend the Rural Normal School at Vacas where there is sufficient land available for the work in agriculture and all fourth year women will attend the school at Santiago de Huata. A rural education specialist from the United States will direct the work at Vacas and a specialist in home economics and health education also from the United States will act as technical advisor at Santiago de Huata. The other two rural normal schools at Portachuelo and Kanasmore will offer the regular three-year courses. All four normal schools, however, will serve as central schools with a number of associated sectional schools.

In order to get the personnel needed to carry out this program, special training courses are now being given to two selected groups of rural teachers, one of which is specializing in agricultural education and

the other in health education. Twenty teachers are included in the education group and thirty in the agricultural group. On the completion of their training courses, each of these teachers will be assigned to one of the central schools.

A Cultural Service for Rural Areas has been organized in the Department of Culture of the Ministry. It includes a traveling theater capable of producing and presenting educational plays in the fields of health, child care, agriculture, and civics. In addition, it provides for the showing of education films throughout the rural areas, and for the preparation and presentation of educational material by radio.

In order to overcome the acute shortage of texts and teaching materials, the cooperative program will emphasize the creation of such materials locally.

The lack of social and economic data about the Indian communities of the highlands and valleys, which has hampered the development of an effective rural curriculum, is now being overcome through a series of social and anthropological studies of Quechua and Aymara communities. Two Bolivian anthropological workers are collaborating with Mr. Maes in the collection and interpretation of the necessary data. When the studies are com-

pleted, the findings will be published in a handbook on rural communities that is to be circulated to all rural teachers, supervisors, and directors of schools. With this handbook as a guide, the teachers will collaborate with the curriculum committee in the preparation of new rural curricula based on the organization, structure and problems of their communities.

In order to attract well trained and qualified teachers the present salary scale will have to be raised. The Minister of Education is heartily in favor of this proposal, and has set the minimum salary of rural teachers at 2,400 bolivianos (\$56.64) per

month, in the current budget. Master teachers are to receive 3,000 bolivianos (\$70.80) per month.

In order to relate this reform to the activities of other agencies that deal with rural life, the Ministry of Education has prepared cooperative agreements with the Ministries of Health and Agriculture and the Bolivian Development Corporation. These groups are cooperating in the training of the two groups of teachers of agriculture and health already mentioned, and it is hoped that the agreements will be extended and expanded under the leadership of the Minister of Education.



Courtesy of Fernando Loaiza Beltrán

INDIAN STUDENTS ENJOY A FOLK DANCE

## Paintings by Pedro Figari

A collection of Figari's paintings, on view last March at the Knoedler Gallery in New York, met with critical approval in the United States. Hitherto this Uruguayan painter, who died in 1938, was little known to Americans. His own country held a large exhibit of his works last year.

Born in Montevideo in 1861, Figari went through law school and rose to prominence in his profession and in political life. He was often in Europe and was familiar with the art movements of his time. When he was approaching sixty, he began to devote himself entirely to painting, which he had practiced from his youth.

Figari's pictures are post-impressionistic in style and poetic in feeling. One critic speaks of the exquisite and varied rhythms in Figari's paintings, and of his strong imaginative sense of expression. The color vibrates, sometimes in bright contrasts and sometimes in gentle harmonies, and the figures are surely sketched.

The subjects painted by Figari were those of 1830-60, especially landscapes, dances, domestic interiors, Negroes. It has been said that he makes these old times live for us by intimate fragments, which enable us to absorb history by atmosphere.

The three pictures here reproduced show a country dance, which gauchos (the cowboys of the South American pampas) and girls are performing; a party in a well-to-do home, where the ladies wear high tortoise-shell combs in their hair; and a Negro dance, which had a symbolic religious significance. (Almost no Negroes are now left in Uruguay.)

Exhibits in Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and Paris made Figari well known in his lifetime.



Courtesy of Knoedler Gallery

FIGARI: GAUCHO DANCE IN PATIO



Courtesy of Knoedler Gallery

FIGARI: PARTY



Courtesy of Knoedler Gallery

FIGARI: THE LAST  
CANDOMBE



## El Castellano en América

ARMANDO SOLANO

ENTUSIASMA en Panamá la defensa del castellano. Aceptado por el país desde remotas décadas el indispensable bilingüismo, nadie tolera la posibilidad de que prepondere el idioma inglés con mengua del propio. Ciertamente es que numerosas palabras de la técnica y del trabajo mecánico se han castellanizado, ingresando al vocabulario nacional. Pero éste no pierde lozanía, ni el amor del pueblo, ni la docta veneración de poetas, letrados y académicos. . . .

Es el vínculo de la lengua el más fuerte de cuantos unen, o debieran unir, a los pueblos americanos, que ostentan en múltiples aspectos los caracteres más diversos. Pero el español no ha subsistido como lazo constante sino porque se somete a la tenaz y dulce violencia del ambiente. De ahí la circunstancia de hablarse en cada una de nuestras veinte repúblicas un lenguaje particular, lleno de singularidades, de modismos, de injertos en el respectivo dialecto indígena, aun de tercas desviaciones del significado original, por más que se escriba en varias de ellas una prosa y una poesía castizas, no pocas veces mejor arraigadas en la vieja cepa y más fieles a tradiciones que la península no siempre recuerda. En villas de silenciosa existencia, adormecidas por siglos en la penumbra de una paz claustral, lejos del forcejeo mercantil, la lengua se mantiene arremansada y limpia, sonora y maciza, incontaminada y fresca. No ha

enajenado ninguna de aquellas perlas, de aquellas gemas que le confirieron esplendidez y majestad. El campesino, prisionero en su estancia, separado de los centros populosos, con poca escuela y ninguna lectura, clasificado como indio, es decir como esclavo, por apresurados investigadores, acuña cada arcaísmo que se paladea con delicia. En las llanuras casi desiertas, dedicadas al primitivo pastoreo, las gentes dialogan todavía como en la edad de oro del castellano. . . .

Así, el español de América se ha formado, dentro del global acatamiento a las normas clásicas, por cuya integridad han vuelto a veces nuestros mejores hablistas y los excelsos poetas que desanquilosaron el verso castellano, iniciando, con la libertad métrica y la emancipación ideológica, el ennoblecimiento de la palabra común y el regreso a las formas olvidadas de la poesía antigua. Pero al formarse y al crecer en su ancho medio, solicitado y estimulado por las cosas y las nociones y las inspiraciones nuevas, que claman por nombres, atributos y expresión propios, adquiere una prestancia, unas ambiciones y un vuelo que no cambian en el proceso meramente hispano. . . . Sin embargo, no parecería cuerdo negarse a convenir en que al tocar la tierra americana, el castellano se ha henchido de vibrantes savias, ha conquistado modos, palabras y construcciones de los idiomas vencidos, reasume un aire ecuménico que ya ostentó en el pasado, ciertamente, pero que había venido perdiendo con la decadencia de la

*Trozo de un ensayo publicado en la Revista de América, Bogotá, marzo 1945.*



madre patria. Instrumento de otras ideologías y de una índole opuesta quizá a la del genuino ibero, herramienta de trabajos rudos y útiles en los que mal pudiera haber pensado el colonizador, y vehículo de la inestabilidad psicológica, de la zozobra, de la contradicción y de la guerra íntima, sembrada en cada americano por el mes-

tizaje de las sangres, de los recuerdos, de las esperanzas y de los mitos religiosos, así como por los trastornos de una aclimatación moral y física que no se conseguirá consumir sino en varias generaciones, el castellano de América es un fenómeno social y humano que merece y necesita largo examen de los estudiosos.



## Women of the Americas

### Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

#### *Women at the First Assembly of the United Nations*

ONLY five women with the rank of plenipotentiary delegate attended the First United Nations Assembly. They were: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who represented the United States; Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Great Britain; Miss Minerva Bernardino, the Dominican Republic; Miss Jean R. McKenzie, New Zealand; and Mrs. Evdokia I. Uralova, Byelorussia.

Among the alternate delegates were: Mrs. Frieda Dalen, Mme. P. Lefaucheux and Dr. H. Verwey, of the delegations sent by Norway, France, and the Netherlands. Nine women were technical advisers for the delegations from their countries: Mrs. Bodil Begtrup (Denmark); Miss Dorothy Fosdick and Miss Frieda S. Miller (United States); Mrs. Olga Hillová and Mrs. Gertrude Sekaninová (Czechoslovakia); Miss L. McPhee (New Zealand); Miss K. M. Midwinter and Miss C. I. Rolfe (Great Britain); and Miss Rena Zafiriou (Greece).

Only eleven countries included women in

their delegations, and of these women only two were from the American Continent. Once again it should be noted that at the Chapultepec Conference it was agreed to take into consideration the cooperation of women in the formation of the respective delegations to international conferences, and it is to be hoped that in the future there will be a larger number of women delegates.

At the final Plenary Session, Mrs. Roosevelt read an open letter drawn up and signed by the aforementioned delegates and technical advisers. She requested that the delegates present give much publicity to this letter upon their return to their respective countries, since the intention of its writers was that it be carried as a message to women everywhere.

The statement reads as follows:

An open letter to the women of the world from the women delegates and advisers at the first Assembly of the United Nations.

This First Assembly of the United Nations marks the second attempt of the peoples of the world to live peaceably in a democratic world community. This new chance for peace was won through the joint efforts of men and women working for com-

mon ideals of human freedom at a time when need for united effort broke down barriers of race, creed, and sex.

In view of the variety of tasks which women performed so notably and valiantly during the war, we are gratified that seventeen women delegates and advisers, representatives of eleven member states, are taking part at the beginning of this new phase of international effort. We hope their participation in the work of the United Nations Organization may grow and may increase in insight and skill. To this end we call on the governments of the world to encourage women everywhere to take a more active part in national and international affairs, and on women who are conscious of their opportunities to come forward and share in the work of peace and reconstruction as they did in war and resistance.

We recognize that women in various parts of the world are at different stages of participation in the life of their communities, that some of them are prevented by law from assuming full rights of citizenship, and that they therefore may see their immediate problems somewhat differently.

Finding ourselves in agreement on these points we wish as a group to advise the women of all our countries of our strong belief that an important opportunity and responsibility confront the women of the United Nations:

1. To recognize the progress women have made during the war and participate actively in the effort to improve the standard of life in their own countries and in the pressing work of reconstruction so that there will be qualified women ready to accept responsibility when new opportunities arise.
2. To train their children, boys and girls alike, to understand world problems and the need for international cooperation as well as the problems of their own countries.
3. Not to permit themselves to be misled by anti-democratic movements, now or in the future.
4. To recognize that the goal of full participation in the life and responsibilities of their countries and of the world community is a common objective toward which the women of the world should assist one another.

Srta. Minerva Bernardino, delegate of the Dominican Republic, spoke next in favor of the letter, saying:

As a delegate of my country, the Dominican Republic, to the first Assembly of the United

Nations, and especially as Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, an official organization composed of twenty-one members appointed by the Governments of the Americas to study and report on the status of women, I would like to give the strongest support to the letter read by the delegate for the United States, my distinguished colleague, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and to the declaration of the French delegation that "a more important place should be given to the participation of women in the different delegations of the United Nations at the next Conference."

I wonder, if in the history of the world, women have ever been confronted with graver responsibilities, have ever enjoyed greater opportunities than those which are their's today?

I do not mean exclusively women who have official high ranking positions; nor necessarily those who are gifted through talent and training with superb gifts of leadership which enable them to clear the way and set the example for others to follow; nor do I mean only those delegated by their governments to attend international parleys. Rather, I refer to the wife, the mother in the home; the teacher in the school; the church worker; the missionary; the social service worker, who goes from door to door helping to set weary feet back on the beaten path; the nurse, who at this moment in hospitals throughout the world is taxing her strength to aid the restoration of sick and wounded to health and normality.

In short, women everywhere who have turned their minds and hearts to the problems of humanity, and to the even more formidable undertaking of re-educating, re-adjusting and enlightening the recalcitrant peoples of the conquered countries.

The work which is ours must be carried on quickly, definitely, with sympathy, discernment, and judgement. It must have the benefit of every effort of experience on the part of women; but we cannot forget that women in many parts of the world are still handicapped by the lack of right to play any role in the discussions of peace and international affairs. We still find women in some parts of the world who have graduated from law schools but are prevented from practising their profession because of strict prohibitions in their countries' laws.

The fact that in the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations there is an affirmation of faith in the principle of equal rights of men and women, and the fact that article 8 of the Charter "established that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of

men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs" is a powerful reason for the women to demand the fulfilment of those principles.

That is why the creation of a committee under the Commission on Human Rights to study and work for the status of women is so important, as it will contribute to the abolition of any existing discrimination by reason of sex, which retards the prosperity and the intellectual, social, and political development of the nations of the world.

In the name of the women of my country, who for many years have been enjoying the same rights and privileges that men enjoy, and in the name of the women of Latin America, and especially those from countries that still walk in obscurity, without the inherent rights to which the dignity of their sex and their responsibilities as mothers of the race should entitle them, I

salute all the delegations here present for the full support they have given to our appeal.

I hope that in future assemblies, as my outstanding colleague from France, Madame Lefaucheux, proposed, we will have more women delegates to cooperate with men to the end that all peoples may enjoy the essential human freedoms proclaimed in 1941 by that great world leader of all time, President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The following delegates also spoke to express their enthusiastic support of the spirit and motive of the letter: Mrs. Dalen of Norway, Mrs. Verwey of Holland, M. Paul Boncour of France, Mr. Fraser of New Zealand, Mr. Fusco of Uruguay, and Mr. Noel-Baker of Great Britain.



# Pan American Union Notes

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

### *Gabriela Mistral*

A SPECIAL session of the Governing Board in honor of Gabriela Mistral, the Chilean poet who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature last year, was held on March 19, 1946. A full account will be given in the next number of the BULLETIN.

### *Conferences postponed*

The Inter-American Technical Economic Conference was indefinitely postponed by the Governing Board on February 20, and on March 15 it was voted that the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security to have been held in Rio de Janeiro also be postponed. The Government of Brazil

was entrusted with the duty of suggesting to the governments of the continent a new date for the latter.

### *Program of the Ninth Conference*

On March 6 the Board approved a committee report suggesting that, in accordance with the recommendations of the Eighth International Conference of American States and the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, the program of the Ninth International Conference of American States be limited to topics relating to the larger aspects of inter-American policy and the structural organization of the inter-American system, and that the attached preliminary list of topics, referred to the Bogotá Conference

by previous inter-American assemblies, be forwarded to the Governments for observation and comment. The Governments are also requested to submit such additional topics as in their opinion may be included in the agenda within the criterion set above.

The following is the preliminary list of topics:

1. Reorganization of the Inter-American System:

- (a) Convention on the Organization of the Inter-American System
- (b) Declaration of the Rights and Duties of States.
- (c) Declaration of the International Rights and Duties of Man
- (d) Permanent Organization of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council
- (e) Reorganization of the Agencies for the Codification of International Law
- (f) Consideration of an Agency for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations.

Paragraphs (a) to (d) are based on the Resolution of Mexico. Paragraphs (e) and (f) are included in the general plan of reorganization of the System

2. The Inter-American Peace System—Coordination of the Treaties and Conventions for the pacific settlement of international disputes.

Based on Resolution IX of Mexico and Resolution XV of the Lima Conference

3. Consideration of reports presented by the Inter-American Juridical Committee on various matters entrusted to its study.

Various matters have been entrusted to the study of the Inter-American Juridical Committee with the request that it prepare reports and projects for submission to the Ninth Conference

4. Consideration of the Statutes of the Inter-American Commission of Women. The Commission will first present a report to the Conference.

This subject has been entrusted to the Ninth Conference by Resolution XXIII of the Conference of Lima.

### *Election procedure*

On February 6 the Board approved the following recommendations for the election of its Chairman and Vice-Chairman:

1. That the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Governing Board be elected annually at the first regular meeting in November, and that notice of the election be sent to the members of the Board one month in advance of the scheduled date.

2. That there be no formal nominations of candidates at the meetings of the Board. The voting in the case of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be by secret ballot.

3. That the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman be by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Board. If at the regularly scheduled meeting no election should result, a Special Meeting shall be called at which the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be made on the basis of a majority of the members present and voting at such Special Meeting. Neither the Chairman nor the Vice Chairman shall be eligible for reelection for the immediately succeeding period.

These recommendations implement the resolution adopted at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, stipulating that the Chairman of the Governing Board shall be elected annually, but shall not be eligible for reelection for the term immediately following. By analogy it is assumed that this provision is intended to apply also to the Vice Chairman of the Board.

# Pan American News

## *Postwar measures in the American Republics*

### *Industrial development*

In November 1945 the Government of *Colombia* issued a decree, originating in the Ministry of National Economy, which amended prevailing regulations on the exploitation of and trade in rubber. According to the new decree, the Government, through the Department of Agriculture and by means of the Ministry of Economy's Revolving Fund for Economic Development, will work to further the production and scientific exploitation of rubber through the establishment of nurseries and plantations in appropriate areas. The Bank of Agricultural, Industrial, and Mining Credit is given sole authority to buy, sell, and export natural rubber. To finance such operations, the Bank may enter into contracts with private persons or companies and may use the above-mentioned Revolving Fund. The minimum prices to be paid by the Bank will be the same as those in effect under agreements made by the Colombian Government with the Rubber Development Corporation of the United States. When these agreements terminate, the Government will fix minimum prices for natural rubber produced in the country. The Bank may sell rubber for export to the Rubber Development Corporation only, and this not until national requirements are met, and in accordance, of course, with present agreements with the Corporation. The decree makes further provisions regarding procedures for distribution of rubber to national industrialists and for the extraction of rubber from public forests. The

Government will withhold 4 percent of the purchase price paid to small producers and, on rubber purchased from concessionaires, whatever discount is allowed in the concession contract. These funds will be deposited in the National Treasury in a special account for reinvestment in rubber development through the Economic Development Revolving Fund. (*Comercio*, organ of the Chamber of Commerce, Cartagena, November 30, 1945.)

In view of its aim to encourage the development of the nation's productive resources, the Government of *Peru* in a recent decree named a special commission to study conditions among industries created during the war period. During the war years a number of industries were established in Peru to produce at home goods that were formerly imported. The Government now feels that these industries, many of which have acquired considerable commercial and economic importance, should be encouraged to continue. They use national labor and national raw materials that were not previously so utilized. To prevent their dying out as international trade begins to return to prewar levels, the special commission will make studies for the formulation of a plan of government protection for such industries in order that the nation may obtain the maximum equitable economic return. The commission is composed of the Minister of Development and representatives of the Lima Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial Bank, the National Association of Industries, and officials of the Treasury and Development Ministries. (*El Peruano*, January 7, 1946.)

The travel industry is already beginning

to rise from its enforced wartime depression. In normal times tourists spend millions of dollars every year not only in their home lands but in foreign countries. The Peruvian Government, with an eye to the coming renewal of tourist travel, recently appointed a commission to plan a travel development program for the nation. The commission will make contacts with travel agencies and hotel enterprises of the nation and will prepare for the eventual organization of a National Travel Corporation. (Supreme Resolution No. 991, November 8, 1945, *El Peruano*, January 11, 1946.)

Mexico recently adopted several measures to carry its already flourishing industrial development program farther along the way. On December 31, 1945, the President approved a law to encourage the development of manufacturing industries by granting to new and necessary industries broad exemptions from import, income, stamp, and other federal taxes for periods varying from five to ten years after they begin operations. "New" industries are defined as those engaged in the manufacture of goods not already produced in the country, and "necessary" industries as those which, although not new, manufacture goods not already produced in sufficient quantity to meet national requirements. Assembly and repair plants and enterprises that manufacture goods on a scale that is small in relation to cost of production (taking into consideration in this respect labor employed, raw materials used, and equipment required) are especially excluded from the benefits of the law.

The import duty exemptions will be extended, upon approval by the Departments of National Economy and the Treasury and Public Credit, to construction materials, machinery, parts, tools, and other equipment needed to establish

the business, provided always that such materials are not available at home. Industries that are definitely basic to the nation's industrial development will enjoy the several tax exemptions for ten years; those of economic importance, although not considered basic, will have the benefits for seven years; and those included in neither of the two foregoing groups will receive the privileges for five years. Determination of these categories will be made later in the regulations of the law.

This new law will in no way affect similar privileges and benefits already prevailing under the decree of November 22, 1939 and the law of May 13, 1941. In fact, the Departments of National Economy and the Treasury and Public Credit are authorized by the new law to extend for five and two years, respectively, the tax exemption periods granted to new industries established under the earlier measures, and industries whose privilege periods have expired within the past year may apply for an extension. (*Diario Oficial*, February 9, 1946.)

A presidential resolution dated October 11, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, February 13, 1946) authorized the Department of the Treasury and Public Credit of Mexico during the period September 15, 1945-September 15, 1946, to grant to woolen textile industrial establishments a subsidy of 1.50 pesos per kilo of unwashed wool which they buy from national wool producers. The wool must be used by the industrialists for the production of textiles in their own factories, and the subsidy will be applied against the import duties they must pay on imported wool. This, of course, is a measure designed to encourage the purchase and use of nationally produced wool and will benefit both wool producers and textile manufacturers.

Another Mexican measure aimed at benefiting the campesinos of a specific

area, engaged in a specific occupation, was the presidential resolution of December 18, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, February 15, 1946) by which an Organizing Committee for Palm Exploitation was created, composed of one representative each of the Departments of National Economy and the Treasury and Public Credit, and of the National Foreign Trade Bank. In the region of the Mixtecs in the State of Oaxaca and of Chilapa and Tilpa in the State of Guerrero, a great number of campesinos produce articles of palm, principally for export. Prices obtained by these workers have thus far offered little incentive toward perfection or large-scale production, and the economic and social conditions of the workers are much in need of improvement. The new Organizing Commission will make studies of present methods of palm exploitation and the living and working conditions of the people who produce the palm articles; will help organize industrial cooperatives, obtain credit, make trade connections, propose measures for increasing national use of the products; and will investigate the possibilities of mechanizing and perfecting production.

The milling industry of Mexico, which in May 1943 was frozen at its then existing level of production by a decree which declared it to be "saturated," was afforded some relief by a decree of January 29, 1946 (*Diario Oficial*, February 14, 1946) which amended the previous restrictions. Although the principle of the original decree is preserved, the amendments permit completion of mills that were under construction in 1943, providing they can be finished within 90 days. Furthermore, to avoid monopoly, in cases where only one mill operates in a given area, the Department of National Economy may authorize the establishment of other mills as deemed desirable; and, in wheat-

raising regions, where the number of mills is insufficient to handle the crop, new mills may be authorized. Mills may not increase their productive capacity, except in cases where productive capacity is transferred from one mill to another in the same area. And finally, the Department of National Economy may authorize new equipment for flour mills, provided no increase in productive capacity is involved.

Under a law approved December 31, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, February 11, 1946) the Department of National Economy of Mexico, through its Bureau of Standards, is engaged in fixing nomenclature, quality, and performance standards for the products of eighteen different industries. The Bureau of Standards is authorized to draw upon the National Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and upon industrialists and merchants themselves, for assistance in formulating the standards. The eighteen categories covered by the law are: textiles; metallurgy and metal manufactures; construction materials; vehicles; clothing and toilet articles; food products; wood; pottery; hides and skins; electric materials; chemicals; petroleum refining and distillation; paper; printing, photography, and motion pictures; tobacco; glass; precision and musical instruments; and miscellaneous industries.

#### *Price, supply, and rent control*

Cuba's Office of Price Regulation and Supply issued Resolution No. 439, dated December 31, 1945 (*Gaceta Oficial*, January 16, 1946, p. 876), in which the numerous existing import, price, distribution, and procurement regulations on motor vehicles were coordinated and, to some extent, amended to meet the postwar situation. The acquisition of motor vehicles is still subject to prior permit with priority for trucks, in the order named.

for federal, provincial, and local governments for agricultural, highway, health, security, transportation, and other public purposes; electric power, telephone communications, and newspapers; the milk industry; and enterprises engaged in the transportation of fuel, foodstuffs, construction materials, textiles, and clothing; and with priority for passenger vehicles granted to government, clinics, hospitals, public officials, the armed forces, newspapers, persons engaged in agriculture and commerce, and diplomats. Prices are fixed and the procedures to be followed by importers are outlined in detail.

Three *Venezuelan* measures were aimed at reducing the cost of living. Resolution No. 72 of the National Supply Commission ordered reductions in housing rents ranging from 5 percent on monthly rents of 300 to 400 bolívares to 15 percent on monthly rents of 200 bolívares or less. Resolution No. 73 lowered electric current rates from 10 to 15 percent in various sections of the country. (*Gaceta Oficial*, December 27, 1945.)

A Venezuelan Treasury Department resolution (*Gaceta Oficial*, December 1, 1945) reduced import duties on gasoline and kerosene, and provided that beginning December 13, 1945, petroleum refineries in the country would pay on gasoline or kerosene destined for domestic consumption 50 percent of the import duties that such products would have produced had they been imported. A lower price for gasoline and kerosene for general consumption was expected to follow.

#### *Enemy property*

On September 3, 1945, *Argentina*, complying with commitments made at the Rio de Janeiro Meeting of Foreign Ministers in 1942 and with recommendations of the Inter-American Conference on Systems of Economic and Financial Con-

trol, 1942, and the Chapultepec Conference of February–March 1945, issued Decree No. 20,496 establishing official control over the properties of commercial, social, and cultural enterprises located in the country and belonging to German and Japanese interests or nationals and to interests or nationals of countries occupied during the war by those powers. Clarifications and amendments to the decree were made on October 26, 1945, by Decree No. 26,438. Still another decree (No. 21,203, September 10, 1945) ordered the occupation by the Ministry of Justice and Public Instruction of German and Japanese schools in Argentina. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 15 and November 14, 1945.)

In *Peru*, Law No. 10,306 of November 19, 1945, provided that all Axis properties that had been taken over by the Government during the war should be retained by the State until damages suffered by the country because of the war are liquidated. A commission was created to take charge of claims for war damages, and the law specifically stated that claims of individuals, as well as the State, would be accepted and handled by the commission. (*El Comercio*, Lima, December 8, 1945.)

On November 14, 1945, the President of *Brazil* approved a decree repealing Decree No. 10,358 of August 31, 1942, which declared the existence of a state of war and suspended certain articles of the constitution. However, all enemy property that was taken over by the Government during the war remains, according to the decree, subject to the provisions of existing laws and decrees. (*Jornal do Commercio*, Rio de Janeiro, November 15, 1945.)

#### *Miscellaneous*

An executive decree in *Argentina*, dated November 13, 1945, clarified the status of Argentine citizens who voluntarily served in the armies of "countries allied with



Argentina during the war." Such persons will lose none of their political rights as Argentine citizens because of their war service. Furthermore, monthly pensions of 100 pesos were provided for the widows, minor children, unmarried daughters, or parents of Argentines who lost their lives fighting in the war. (*La Prensa*, Buenos Aires, November 14, 1945.)

#### *Bilateral and multilateral measures*

On November 30, 1945, an administrative agreement between the Republic of Cuba and UNRRA provided for the establishment of a Mixed Commission for UNRRA Procurement in Cuba. This Commission will determine Cuba's contribution to UNRRA. Its duties and obligations, as well as procedures to be followed in the procurement of supplies in Cuba, were outlined in Decree No. 185, approved January 25, 1946. (*Gaceta Oficial*, February 6, 1946, p. 2405.)

Ratification of the amended agreement effected between the Government of Ecuador and the Export-Import Bank of Washington, dated August 9, 1945, was made by Decree No. 1726, October 24, 1945. The new agreement extended to December 31, 1946, the term of credits amounting to \$1,480,000 authorized in previous agreements with the Bank. (*Registro Oficial*, November 7, 1945.)

On March 19, 1945, the Director of Economic Stabilization of the United States extended to June 30, 1946, the subsidy of 3 cents a pound on imports of green coffee. The prolongation of the subsidy is an emergency measure necessary to assure adequate coffee supplies for the United States during the next few months. The cooperation of coffee producing countries made possible the success of the original subsidy program, under which almost 6,000,000 bags were purchased up to February 1, 1946. Continuation of the

subsidy to June 30 will permit further participation of the producing countries in the 3-cent subsidy and is expected to encourage large-scale imports into the United States. The subsidy will apply to not over 13,500,000 bags of 132 pounds, and no increase in either green or roasted coffee price ceilings will take place in the United States. (*New York Times*, March 20, 1946.)—D. M. T.

#### *Central Bank of Chile*

The Central Bank of Chile completed its 20th year of existence in January 1946. Founded for the purpose of stabilizing the peso, the Bank was constructed according to an organic law (Decree 486, see *Diario Oficial*, August 22, 1925) which was the result of studies made by Chilean economists and by a commission of financial advisers headed by the late Prof. Edwin W. Kemmerer of Princeton University. It is governed by a Board of Directors who represent the government, commerce, and industry of Chile; these ten directors choose the president and vice-president from among themselves or from outside their membership.

The Central Bank was opened as a conversion bank, in the period when trade was world-wide and when gold moved freely from one country to another, so that large volumes of international payments were adjusted by shipments of gold. It was entrusted with the control of monetary conversion and the power to regulate the amount of the circulating medium. To that end the country's metal reserves, which at that time amounted to more than the total of the circulating medium, were turned over to the Bank, together with a monopoly of the issue of bank notes. At its option the Bank could convert to gold coin or bullion, or to

three-day bills on London or New York, thus maintaining a modernized form of the traditional gold standard.

When the bank was opened early in 1926, gold parity of the peso had just been fixed by law (Decree 606, *Diario Oficial*, October 16, 1925) at 0.183057 grams of fine gold, a value which it had held for the previous five years. This meant that the Bank bought and sold 8.219 pesos for the United States dollar, and 40 pesos for the pound sterling.

In those early years the Bank's exercise of its conversion functions involved some risk of promoting inflationary or deflationary tendencies within the country. To counteract such dangers, the Bank employed two weapons—its power to regulate interest rates and its power to grant credits.

In fixing interest rates on its own loans the Bank controlled other interest rates, because commercial banks desiring to keep their right of rediscount were required to discount at rates no more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  points above the Central Bank's rate. Therefore when the Central Bank desired to arrest a tendency toward internal deflation, it raised its interest rate, thereby attracting foreign capital and buying more exchange; and conversely, when the tendency was inflationary the Central Bank lowered its rate, driving capital into foreign markets and increasing its sales of exchange. At the same time it could employ its power to grant credits, decreasing or increasing its discounts and rediscounts of 90-day commercial paper, granting more liberal credits in deflationary times and reducing credits when the danger was inflationary.

By the middle of 1931 world financial conditions had brought about serious price recessions in Chile as elsewhere. Continued sale of gold and exchange on the part of the Central Bank was produc-

ing acute internal deflation. In spite of increased interest rates and liberal credits the gold reserve continued to fall. Issues were also reduced, but to a lesser extent, so that the gold reserve formed less than 64 percent of the circulating medium instead of more than 100 percent as in 1926.

To meet this crisis there was created a Commission to Control Exchange Operations (Law 4,973, *Diario Oficial*, July 31, 1931), with full power to restrict or prohibit buying and selling of gold coin, bullion, and foreign exchange. In practice this ended all conversion into metal or exchange, and suspended service on the external debt in foreign money. By the middle of 1932 the circulating medium had been further increased through new credits granted to the national treasury, and the deflation was becoming a serious inflation. Before the process was checked early in 1933, the relation of the reserve to the obligations had fallen to 18 percent. Quotations of June 30, 1933 showed the United States dollar valued at 30 pesos and the pound sterling at 130 pesos.

In April 1932 Law 5,107 ended the conversion of notes. The Central Bank could sell exchange only to persons authorized by the International Exchange Commission to make payments abroad, and the Bank could not use its reserves either to convert notes or to complete balance of payments. "Official exchange" fixed international exchange rates every day.

From 1933 to 1942 exchange operations had little influence on the volume of the circulating medium, which was determined almost wholly by the volume of credits. Since the Bank's organic law required it to maintain a reserve of no less than 50 percent of its issues and deposits, credits were automatically limited, and were soon insufficient for the growing demand. This difficulty was at first met

by Law 5,185 of June 30, 1933, which permitted reserves to be figured at double their actual value for purposes of maintaining the required proportion; and at the same time laws authorizing new loans began to make a practice of including provisions which for this purpose suspended the requirement of the organic law.

The remedy for this irregular procedure, Law 6,824 (*Diario Oficial*, February 15, 1941), relieved the Bank of its obligation to keep its reserves equal to 50 percent of its obligations, thus legalizing the fiat money which had been in circulation since 1931.

Wartime trade difficulties produced far-reaching changes in Chile's economy after 1942, and Law 7,200 (*Diario Oficial*, July 21, 1942) authorized the Central Bank to buy foreign money at prices fixed by its Board of Directors. A Treasury decree stabilized the various types of exchange (special, export draft, and private funds) at 19.37 pesos, 25 pesos, and 31 pesos per dollar.

Postwar adjustments, the Bank's directors believe, may involve a contraction of issues. However, the President of Chile has already been authorized to empower the Central Bank to buy bonds or other short-term securities as a means of stabilizing the circulating medium. In the immediate future this power is expected to prove of great value in dealing with the possible danger of postwar deflation.

### *Ecuadorean highways*

Road building in Ecuador is making good progress, not only along the Pan American Highway, but in the construction of lateral and tributary all-weather roads. Only two unfinished gaps, totaling about 150 miles, remain to be built in the Ecuadorean section of the Pan American Highway. For the next eight years the Government will set aside 1,200,000 sucres a

year for the building of a lateral road from the main highway at Latacunga, east to Napo, on the river of the same name. This road will eventually give Ecuador an outlet to the Atlantic, since the Napo is navigable and is part of the Amazon system. Eight reinforced concrete bridges have been built on the 118-mile road which unites Quito with Santo Domingo, and the lateral highway which will link Guayaquil and Cuenca, by way of Tambo, is now 37 miles east of Eloy Alfaro (Durán). The southern provinces of Azuay and El Oro will be more accessible when the road from Puerto Bolívar to Cuenca is completed, and the section northeast of Pasaje has now reached the town of Cataviña.

### *Nickel deposits in Brazil*

Not the least of Brazil's potential sources of wealth are its extensive deposits of nickel. Even before World War II there was a shortage of this metal in world markets. In spite of the important quantities produced in Canada and New Caledonia, and the additional deposits found in Russia, Norway, Burma, Greece, Germany, the Netherlands Indies, and the United States, the demand has always been greater than the supply. It is reported that during the war 4,000,000 nickel coins, circulating in 28 countries, had to be melted for use in war industries.

Nickel deposits are found in various parts of Brazil, particularly in the states of Minas Gerais and Goiás. By far the most important are those of São José de Tocantins in the northern part of Goiás which have a metallic content of from 12 to 14 percent, and which geologists estimate are capable of producing enough nickel to satisfy world needs for hundreds of years. These deposits, believed to be the greatest in existence, will soon be

linked with the railroads serving Goiás, Minas Gerais, and São Paulo.

### *Dominican Republic Coffee and Cacao Commission*

During 1945 a number of measures were taken for protecting, improving, and marketing the coffee and cacao crops. A promotional advertising campaign was carried on, at home and abroad, designed to encourage the purchase of Dominican coffee and cacao. An experiment station and a technical section were established for each crop, so that various methods of pruning, shading, fertilizing, and soil conservation could be studied. Each technical section is directed by an expert agronomist, assisted by four or five agricultural instructors who are responsible for teaching the best cultivating and marketing methods. They keep in close contact with farmers and warehouse owners, in order to standardize the quality of the products. Needy farmers were given 7,300 bags of cement for the building of drying grounds. A bulletin of general interest is published by the Commission, and statistics on the exportation of coffee and cacao are compiled monthly.

Dominican delegates attended all sessions of the Inter-American Coffee Board, the Pan American Coffee Bureau, and the Fourth Pan American Coffee Conference. Members of the coffee export trade were kept informed of the reports and resolutions made by these organizations.

Four thousand dollars was spent on the construction and repair of roads to the coffee belts, and the Government provided the growers with 143 pulpers and a number of hand tools. A study was made of Central American coffee production, permits for the export of coffee to the United States were expedited in order to control

the Dominican quota, and tests of all coffee exported were made.

The cacao growers were given 220 cacao cutting knives and 211 sacks of barium carbonate, but the most important government contribution was the campaign to improve the shading of the cacao trees. *Erythrina poeppigiana*, a leguminous tree, has been most commonly used, but a drought two years ago killed so many of these shade trees in the central part of the Republic, that the Government decided to obtain the new and hardy strains used by other cacao producing countries. Seeds of *Erythrina glauca* were imported from Venezuela, since this tree is more resistant to high winds and drought. *Clitoria racemosa* was imported from Brazil, where it is used not only as a shade tree, but for the edible oil which is extracted from its seeds. As soon as enough seedlings are grown in the government nursery, they will be allotted to the cacao growers, thus helping to improve cacao culture in the Republic.

### *Rotenone from Peru*

Peru, which has been supplying the United States with a large part of its supply of rotenone during the war years, is planning to increase future production, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Indications point to an annual production of more than 7,000,000 lbs. of barbasco roots, from which rotenone will be obtained. This would more than double Peru's output prior to Pearl Harbor, when the United States was importing half of its rotenone from the Far East.

Since 1942, Peru and Brazil have supplied the United States with nearly all of the rotenone that is now being used as an insecticide in agriculture. Last year Peru supplied 5,919,067 lbs. of crude and

partially ground roots, and Brazil furnished 598,631 lbs.

The Peruvian rotenone industry is centered in the Upper Amazon area. Shipping through the port of Iquitos has increased rapidly. The increase in demand has occurred largely within the last 15 years, when demands of the United States for rotenone as an insecticide provided an increasingly big market. A four-year agreement between the United States and Peru, which was signed in 1942 and provided sufficiently attractive prices, stimulated expansion of the industry to help supply the United States market.

### *Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production*

The Third Plenary Session of the Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production will be held in Montevideo from May 28 to June 3, 1946. The following is a synopsis of the topics for discussion by individual groups, later to be brought before the full session:

1. State intervention; its present characteristics; rational boundaries of government interference in economic activities.
2. Immediate problems created by the transition from war to peacetime economy.
3. Reorganization of the market for private products.
4. Orientation and protection of manufacturing industries.
5. Social policy.
6. Inflation control measures.
7. Stabilization of monetary policy; capital movement.
8. Stock exchange organization.
9. Tax policy.
10. Development of inter-American trade and commerce.
11. International organization and development of trade and commerce.
12. Reorganization of transports and communication.

### *New transportation routes and hotels in Bolivia*

During recent years, in spite of great natural handicaps, Bolivia has been making determined and successful efforts to improve its systems of transportation, reports the *Grace Log*.

An extensive highway construction program is being carried on by the Bolivian Development Corporation with the coöperation of the Export-Import Bank of Washington. One of the trunk lines in this program is the highway linking Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, and Montero, which will tie rail and highway routes into a vast transcontinental system that will eventually connect Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro with Pacific coast ports. This highway will facilitate the industrial development of the area through which it passes and will make it possible to ship timber, hides, rice, sugar, and fruit to the *altiplano*, which has until now been supplied chiefly by imported food and merchandise. Another strategic road is being built between San Antonio and Todos Santos. Now nearing completion, it will be the first overland means of transportation into the Department of El Beni other than mule trails. More than fifteen other roads have been built or are under construction between villages and towns within the jungle district. Two vital roads, destined to play a leading role in the development of the rich oil fields centered around Camiri, now link the latter city with Sucre and Santa Cruz.

Railroads between Brazilian and Argentine border towns and the Bolivian oil fields are now under construction. Other new railways connect Cochabamba with Santa Cruz, Sucre with Camiri, and various points in Bolivia with the Peruvian frontier.

At key points along these roads and rail-

ways new hotels have been established for the convenience of travelers. Many of these hotels are as comfortable as are to be found anywhere, and they offer a wide variety of climates and pastimes.

Located on the principal boulevard in La Paz, and commanding a view of the snow-capped peaks of Illimani, is the modern Sucre Palace. This hotel has attractive rooms, the majority with private baths and telephones, a dining room seating 300 guests, an efficient tourist bureau, and automobiles for sight-seeing operated by well-trained guides. In Cochabamba there is the Gran Hotel, a family-type hostelry opened in 1943. Centering around a gardened patio containing a swimming pool and tennis courts, its rooms open on galleries overlooking the gardens.

On the shores of Lake Titicaca are two modernistic tourist hotels—the Tiquina and the Copacabana, both offering breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains. Another beautiful new hotel is located in Sorata, a health resort 90 miles north of La Paz but at a lower altitude. Here the vacationist finds a warm, balmy climate and opportunity for skiing, mountain climbing, swimming, and boating.

Two other pleasant spots are the Hotel Yungas in Chulumani, which offers a wide choice of outdoor sports, and a first-class hotel near the hot springs of Urmiri, where one can bathe and swim in water rich in various minerals.

### *Rural electrification in Panama*

A rural electrification program, embracing the four central provinces of Panama, was announced on February 5, by President Enrique Jiménez. A central plant, with a capacity load of 1013 kilowatts,

will be installed in Aguadulce, from which town lines will be laid to Anton and Los Santos, covering a distance of 104 miles. Four plants now operating in Anton and Los Santos will be moved to Aguadulce, where two plants are at present in operation.

Under an agreement reached between the President and the Superintendent of Panamá Eléctrica, Inc., the National Bank and the Social Security Bank will each contribute \$100,000 to finance the project. These two loans will be amortized by the Government, which will become the principal stockholder, by diverting the \$7,000 now spent monthly in maintenance and operation of the six plants affected. The total cost of the program is estimated at \$400,000.

### *New libraries in Uruguay*

In a statement issued early in 1946, the Director of the National Library of Uruguay reported that in the two calendar years 1944 and 1945 the Ministry of Public Instruction, acting through the National Library, opened 23 libraries in the interior of the country.

The Government, which gave 20,000 books for these libraries, was joined in all cases by municipalities and private individuals, who added their generous contributions. This fact was regarded by the Director of the National Library as most heartening, because it indicates public enthusiasm; and the awakening of public interest in the project was one of the objects most desired by the Government.

Of the 23 new libraries, 11 are municipal; 2 were installed in schools; 4 are in workers' centers and in the People's University of Maldonado; 4 are rural; and 2, in Canelones and Maldonado, are provincial.

Minimum plans for the current year call

for the opening of a provincial library in the Department of Flores, 4 more municipal libraries, and 2 rural libraries.

### *El Salvador's plans for education in 1946*

The budget of El Salvador for 1946 provides over 4,000,000 colones (colón equals \$.40 U. S. cy.) for educational purposes. This is the highest educational appropriation in the history of the country, and exceeds by almost 1,000,000 colones the 1945 appropriation. The sum also represents a record proportion of the total budget—13.49 percent, as compared with 12.15 percent for education in 1945 and 10.45 percent in 1940.

As would be expected, a large part of the funds are destined for the primary schools. Over 2,500,000 colones, or 63 percent, will go for the salaries of primary school teachers alone. The salaries of these teachers are being raised so that none will receive less than 60 colones per month.

The number of school commissioners is being tripled. In addition to the usual 14 commissioners (one for each department), there will now be 28 assistant commissioners with salaries of 130 colones per month. With three officials for each department the schools can be run more efficiently and inspected more regularly. As a result of this measure, 28 primary school teachers will have an opportunity for promotion.

The educational budget also includes 135,000 colones toward the support of the cooperative program being carried on with the Inter-American Educational Foundation.

Secondary and vocational education were not neglected. The three secondary schools, located in San Salvador, Santa Ana, and San Miguel will continue, and

the normal schools will increase the number of their scholarships. Twenty new positions as director of normal sections annexed to public primary schools are being established.

Over 171,000 colones were appropriated for the University of El Salvador, covering 68 percent of the total expenses of its five faculties for the year.

### *Literacy campaign in Honduras*

Regulations for the national literacy campaign were approved by President Carías on August 30, 1945. This campaign is for the benefit of all illiterates over the age of fifteen.

The capital of every department (Honduras is divided into seventeen departments) will have a literacy commission, and every village will have its subcommission. The Secretary of Public Education, a cabinet officer, is in charge of the campaign, and commissions will report to him. The commissions are made up of various government officers, and some private individuals.

The teaching personnel for the campaign will be chosen from private individuals, primary school teachers, student associations, cultural associations; lodges, clubs, military detachments, etc. Private individuals and teachers are under obligation to teach at least five persons a year. The others will teach the number agreed on by the local commissions.

Teachers who take part in this campaign will enjoy certain privileges, such as being given preference in appointments for the following school year and having their teaching work count toward promotions.

As soon as a student can read and write his teacher will apply for an examination to be given by the commission, and on graduation he will receive a literacy certificate.

### *Archeological research by United Fruit Company in Guatemala*

The Government of Guatemala has given formal approval for an archaeological project to be undertaken over a five-year period by the United Fruit Company, to restore ancient Mayan ruins.

The scientific project will be launched at the ruined city of Zaculeu, three miles from Huehuetenango, one-time capital of the Mam Maya Kingdom of the pre-Columbian era. As the project develops, it is expected that the traveling public and the nationals of Guatemala and the neighboring republics of Middle America will be afforded an opportunity to see for themselves the wonders of an ancient civilization under the process of authentic reconstruction.

Work has already begun at Zaculeu under the direction of John M. Dimick, expert in Middle American archaeology. Dr. A. V. Kidder of the Carnegie Institution of Archaeological Research acts in an advisory capacity for the United Fruit Company and as its consultant on the sites to be selected and developed.

The ruins of Zaculeu now under process of reconstruction are easily accessible by a car in ten minutes from Huehuetenango, which is approximately 175 miles by car northwest of Guatemala City.

A preliminary survey has already revealed three large plazas. The central plaza, which will be restored first, is dominated by the principal temple about 40 feet high and 100 feet at the base. The ball courts where the famous religious game of ancient Central America was played will also be restored. Many other clearly defined temples and altars promise to reveal findings of endless interest.

The expedition is particularly happy about the selection of Zaculeu for this first restoration activity. This ancient city reached the zenith of its fame in the 16th century when the Mayan Indians made their heroic stand there against the southward advance of the Spanish Conquistadors.

### *Nicaragua fights illiteracy*

The literacy campaign announced by presidential decree on April 30, 1945, was

MAIN TEMPLE,  
ZACULEU





implemented on September 7, 1945, by a number of government regulations which provide for the organization and execution of the campaign. All literate Nicaraguans, between the ages of 15 and 70, are obliged to teach reading and writing to those illiterates who are between the ages of 12 and 50.

The Secretary of Public Education is executive director of the campaign, and he will be aided by various government agencies, workers' groups, and business associations. He will organize vacation schools in the capital, in order that uncertificated rural teachers may take brief courses in teaching methods; initiate the establishment of travelling schools and ask business groups to help bear the expense of this enterprise; and grant a diploma, signed by the President of the Republic, to all persons who have participated in the campaign. All teaching is under his supervision.

Volunteer teachers, in the main, will teach in rural schools and city night schools.

Supervisors of Public Education will organize Sunday lectures for parents and volunteer teachers, and will urge all to attend. They will enforce laws governing school attendance, and will visit schools to demonstrate new teaching methods.

All government scholarship students, over fifteen years old, must teach two illiterates a year in order to keep their scholarships; uncertificated teachers who have taught thirty or more illiterates will be given a teacher's certificate; teachers holding certificates who have taught thirty illiterates will receive an extra credit of one year's service on the government register; and citizens who teach fifteen or more illiterates will be given preferential status when positions for unregistered teachers are filled.

Seventy-five thousand primers and read-

ers will be distributed. In addition, reprints of the Home Teaching Law, of April 3 and 25, 1924, will be made available to all interested in the campaign.

### *Aid for would-be home owners in Argentina*

Argentina's Postal Savings Bank is initiating a program under which it will grant loans throughout the Republic under savings plans for the purchase, construction, repair, or enlargement of dwelling houses. This program is part of a general plan to help depositors to spend their savings to their own and the country's best advantage. Loans for the construction or purchase of homes will be made up to 30,000 pesos (a peso equals approximately \$.27 U. S. cy.), and when improvements are made in real estate for which a loan has been made, another 10,000 pesos may be borrowed. Loans will be made with a first class mortgage security to those who have accumulated savings of not less than 20 percent of the total amount. The term for repayment will be set when the loan is made, and may be as long as 30 years. The Bank is authorized to oblige borrowers to take out fire and life insurance policies favoring itself to the amount of the debt. Up to 20 percent of the total deposits of the Bank may be used for these loans.

### *Working conditions of Bolivian miners to be improved*

On September 28, 1945, an agreement was signed between the Bolivian Government and the Institute of Inter-American Affairs providing for a two-year cooperative program for bettering working conditions in Bolivian mines. The Inter-American Co-

operative Public Health Service, established by the I. I. A. A. in 1942, will be used as the administrative organ in carrying out this program. The Bolivian Government and the Institute will each contribute \$35,000 toward the support of the project.

In 1943 a mixed Bolivian and American commission, headed by Calvert Magruder, made an intensive study of working conditions in Bolivia and published a detailed report on the problems involved together with its recommendations for solving them. The present program is designed to put these recommendations into practice.

The Institute will send a group of labor experts and mining technicians to Bolivia to help organize a national employment service, a labor inspection service, and a national system of social security, and to set up programs for collecting labor statistics and for protecting life and health in the mines.

The agreement also provides for sending a number of Bolivian mining experts to the United States to study the mining industry here.

Signed at approximately the same time was a revised health agreement between the Institute and the Bolivian Government. Each will contribute \$500,000 toward the completion by late 1947 of the health program established in 1942. The agreement provides for technical assistance by the Institute in the improvement of water supply and sewage systems, in malaria control projects, and in the promotion of preventive medicine.

### *More condensed milk for Chile*

Chile's production of condensed milk is greatly increased by the large and well-equipped new factory which was opened last November in the good dairy region of

Osorno. With the machinery already installed this new plant is able to utilize more than 13,000 gallons a day of fresh milk, and its capacity can be doubled as soon as the machinery already contracted for has been put into operation.

When it is running at full capacity the Osorno plant will produce far more than the combined yield of the eight-year-old factory at Los Angeles (Bío Bío) and the older plant at Graneros, so that the national supply of condensed milk will be greatly increased. Per capita milk consumption in Chile is very low, and the Government is anxious to raise it as soon as possible, for the sake of public health in general and particularly as a step toward bringing down the nation's high rate of infant mortality.

Of every thousand babies born in Chile in the year 1944, 181 died in their first year of life. This figure, high as it is, represents an improvement brought about within less than a decade by vigorous efforts on the part of various government and private agencies, for during the first third of the present century the infant death rate fluctuated between 250 and 300 per thousand births. It is to be noted that the rate is only 44 for those babies whose care is under control of the Office of Social Security.

### *Social security for Cuban workers*

The benefits of retirement pensions and disability, unemployment, and survivor's insurance were extended to textile and henequen workers in Cuba by means of Law No. 14, December 21, 1945, which became effective on the date of its publication in the *Gaceta Oficial* of December 29, 1945.

The law created a Retirement and Social Assistance Bureau for Textile and Hene-

quen Workers, administered by a twelve-member Board of Directors, six of them elected by employers and the other six representing the workers. Of each group of six, four will represent the textile industry and the other two the henequen industry.

Funds for the Bureau will be forthcoming from a 3 percent monthly levy on salaries and wages of workers, which will be matched by employers, and another contribution of 3 percent monthly, to be paid by labor organizations and associations on the total salaries and wages received by their members; the amount of the first month's increase in salaries and wages whenever workers receive increases; 15 percent of the monthly wage of each worker, deductible for the first month only after he begins to participate in the pension plan (this contribution may be spread over a 12-month period); a discount of 50 percent of benefits paid to pensioners who go abroad to live after their retirement; a discount of 20 percent of benefits paid to workers who retire before they have paid into the fund for 10 years; and fines, donations, legacies, gifts, and interest from investments. In case funds from these sources prove insufficient for expenses of the Bureau, provision is made for increasing the 3 percent contributions of workers, employers, and labor organizations to 5 percent, and for cutting benefits 10 percent, while the deficit continues.

The four types of pensions cover ordinary retirement (for workers of any age who have served in the industries for a minimum of 35 years; workers not under 50 years of age who have served 30 years in the industries; and workers not less than 60 years old who have given at least 10 years of service); voluntary retirement (for workers at least 50 years old who have served more than 20 years); retirement because of disability, total or partial, and

permanent, resulting from labor accidents; and involuntary unemployment, in which case the insurance covers workers of more than 20 years' service who are let out of work for reasons other than those specifically excepted by the law.

The amount of the pensions varies according to both years of service and the worker's annual wage or salary during his last year of service; it ranges from a minimum of 15 percent of his last year's average wage for workers of 10 years' service who receive 2,000 pesos or more a year, to a maximum of 70 percent for workers whose annual wage was 500 pesos or less and who served the maximum period required by the law. In no case, however, may a pensioner receive more than 1,800 pesos a year.

When a worker dies in active service, his legal heirs receive his pension. A surviving husband of a woman worker, however, who is able to work, has no right to the wife's insurance, although it is payable to her children. A surviving wife loses her right to the pension if she remarries. Natural children have the same rights with reference to pensions and insurance benefits as do legitimate ones.

No benefits of any kind will be paid during the first year the law is in effect; after that time, unemployment and disability pensions will be paid; and at the end of five years all types of social insurance included in the law will be payable.

### *Chilean food yeasts*

Chileans are making experiments in the use of food yeasts as a defense against the protein deficiency that forms so large a factor in the undernourished condition of the very poor. Brewer's yeast, molasses yeast, and yeast from a grape residue which cannot legally be utilized for wine are the yeasts now under consideration, and

it is believed that the sugar beets of southern Chile may furnish another excellent source. In the manufacture of these food yeasts the ammonia used in the United States can be replaced by taking advantage of Chile's abundant supply of nitrate. Molasses yeast has a flavor that is rather generally liked; brewer's yeast has more of the bitter, but when it has been mixed with sugar and water the children to whom it has been offered seem to find it acceptable.

### *Diphtheria immunization in Montevideo*

The second stage of the campaign for diphtheria immunization among primary school children is in progress in Montevideo. The campaign has been conducted during the past two years under the direction of the School Health Service.

In the first year anti-diphtheria inoculations, which are compulsory under law, were given to 46,465 children, or 80 percent of the total of primary school pupils, and in 1945, 14,340, the remaining 20 percent, were inoculated. The success of this effort is shown in the number of diphtheria cases among school children for the years 1942 to 1945. In 1942 there were 264 cases; in 1943, 331; in 1944, 465; and in 1945, by which time the inoculations had been given in sufficient number to show results, there were only 44 cases.

The School Health Service plans to continue its program with undiminished intensity for at least another three years, in the expectation that by that time diphtheria will have completely disappeared from the capital.

### *We see by the papers that—*

• A scientific expedition, led by the naturalist Willy Aureli, will shortly leave

São Paulo, *Brazil*, for the backlands of the Araguaia River. The group will include, among others, an ethnographer, two botanists, a mineralogist, an aviator, a topographer, and two motion-picture camera men. Specialized motion-picture equipment will be taken along, including technicolor film, telescopic lenses for photographing wild animals at a distance, and cameras for under-water photography. Extensive studies will be made of the flora, fauna, and mineral deposits of the region around the Tapirapés River, a branch of the Araguaia. Particular attention will be paid to collecting specimens of mosquitoes and other disease-carrying insects. An attempt will be made to conduct anthropological and sociological studies of the Tapirapés Indians, who have as yet had very little contact with civilization.

• Still another carefully planned and beautiful avenue is being constructed at a rapid pace in *Rio de Janeiro*—the Avenida Brasil along Guanabara Bay. This avenue will serve as an alternate route for the Rio-Petrópolis highway, and will make it possible to reach Rio from the states of São Paulo, Minas Gerais, and Rio de Janeiro without passing through congested suburban districts. It will also provide new possibilities for rapid communication between the capital and surrounding agricultural areas. The avenue is 200 feet wide, and has four lanes—two for high-speed traffic, and two for the use of local motorists.

• Revenues derived from income taxes in *Brazil* increased rapidly during the war years. Between 1940 and 1944, such revenues rose from 402,459,000 to 1,969,227,000 cruzeiros—an increase of 257 percent. In 1944, for the first time, São Paulo rather than the Federal District contributed the largest amount. The

Federal District held second place, followed by Rio Grande do Sul, Minas Gerais, and Pernambuco.

- The *Costa Rican* government is to hold 20 percent of the capital and a seat on the board of directors of the new *Líneas Aéreas Costarricenses*, and of air lines which may be organized in future to operate within the country. Sixty percent of the capital of the new company must be in Costa Rican hands from the beginning; within five years the entire flight personnel must be Costa Rican.

- Twenty-one *Latin American* engineers will receive a year's training in *United States* highway construction methods, equipment, and materials under the auspices of the Department of State and the American Road Builders' Association.

- A model industrial city costing from \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000 will be built within the next five years at Talara, *Peru*, by the International Petroleum Company, a subsidiary of Standard Oil. Talara is a port and refining center.

- In addition to the well-known deposits of high-grade iron ore in the State of Minas Gerais, *Brazil* has other enormous deposits, said to total over 142,000,000 tons of ore, in the region between the Amazon and the Guianas.

- A group of companies owning or operating properties in *Cuba* has formed the United States-Cuban Sugar Council, "to assure a continuing supply of sugar for the American consumer at a reasonable price by maintaining an adequate flow of Cuban sugar into the United States market."

- The First Hemispheric Insurance Conference has been called by the Chamber of Commerce of the *United States* in co-operation with the Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production. The

Conference, to be held May 14 to 17 in New York, will have as subjects marine, fire, casualty, life, and aviation insurance. About 500 South, Central, and North American underwriters are expected to attend.

- By the terms of an agreement signed December 28, 1945, in Washington, D. C., the *United States* will send *Honduras* a Military Mission, as requested by that Government. The Mission will provide a detail of officers from the United States Army and Navy to advise the armed forces, and will be maintained for four years.

- Two attractive buildings have recently been completed in the city of David, *Panama*. These, the National Bank building and the Hotel Nuevo, are among several projects destined to improve and beautify the city. Some of the others are an aqueduct now in the process of construction, a sewerage system, the Alcázar Theater, the Carta Vieja Gardens, the grade school, and a modern clinic.

- The *Argentine* Mining Association has opened a course in training experts in drilling artesian wells, making test borings in geological explorations, and in doing other similar work.

- Two new school buildings are being built in *Ecuador* with the money that would have been spent on sending an Ecuadorean delegation across the Atlantic to the London conference which organized the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Instead of making the journey to London himself, the Minister of Education arranged to have his country represented by Ecuadoreans who were already in Europe, and devoted the money thus saved to two new school buildings, one in Quito and the other in Guaranda.

- The Inter-American University in *Panama* opened on February 4 an exposition of contemporary Guatemalan art.
- The Junior Red Cross of *Panama* has organized a lifesaving service on several beaches.
- The New York Yankees baseball team trained in *Panama* for its 1946 season.
- In keeping with an earlier government project, which provides low-cost or free meals to adults and children, *Venezuela* has established a school dining room service, which will give pupils balanced meals. Five units will be built in the Federal District and it is expected that they, together with others already established, will provide a balanced lunch for approximately 4,000 school children. It is planned to extend this service to other parts of the country.
- A recent presidential decree established in *Peru* a National Theater Council to stimulate the development of the theater as a medium of culture. The Council will supervise the construction of a National Theater in Lima and other theaters throughout the Republic, organize a National Conservatory of Scenic Arts, stimulate the writing of plays by Peruvian authors, and encourage the formation of choirs and dance groups. It will also be responsible for introducing the teaching of theater arts in the schools at all levels, and for protecting the rights of authors, actors, and all those connected with the Peruvian theater.
- The water supply of La Paz, *Bolivia*, has been doubled by the installation of the new Hampaturi system of dams and reservoirs on the Chuquiaguillo River. This project which was expected to cost the city 35,500,000 bolivianos by the end of 1945, was financed by a loan from the Central Bank. The system is capable of supplying La Paz with 45,000 cubic meters of water per day.
- The *Brazilian* National Census Service recently published a study of literacy in that country based on data from the 1940 census. In 1940 there were 9,150,000 persons over eighteen years of age who could read and write, of whom 8,360,000 were Brazilian citizens. This figure represents 44 percent of the total adult population, and shows an increase of 73 percent over the corresponding number at the time of the 1920 census. Of the literate Brazilian citizens, 57 percent were men. Literacy is highest in the southern and lowest in the northeastern sections of the Republic. The Federal District has the highest percentage of literates (81 percent), followed by Rio Grande do Sul (62 percent), São Paulo (57 percent), and Santa Catarina (53 percent).
- The expansion of *Colombia's* productive energies in the last few years is reflected not only in the country's rapidly increasing roll of incorporated companies but also in their mounting assets and revenues. Between 1940 and 1945 the total number of such companies in the nation increased from 795 to 1,077, while in the same period their combined assets almost doubled, reaching 1,150 million pesos.
- The Department of Public Health in the Ministry of Labor in *Panama* regulated by a decree dated December 2, 1945, the introduction and sale of pharmaceutical products, medicines, and foods having medicinal properties. In order to import any perishable medicinal product whatsoever, the individual or company must have, in addition to a commercial license, facilities for its preservation and control. Prescriptions will be required to purchase these products, the price of which will be set by the Bureau of Drug Inspection. Severe penalties for violation of these

regulations will be imposed, with fines up to 1,000 balboas.

- It is reported that an LSD (Landing Ship Dock), now nearly completed, is to be placed in service on the ninety-mile trip between Key West, *Florida*, and *Cuba*. The ferry will be large enough to carry 1200 passengers and more than 200 automobiles and trucks. The ship, which is expected to make one round trip a day, was ordered for the Navy but is being reconverted.

- More than 1000 natural rubber tires, the first *Colombian* tires to reach Colombian consumers, left the new Bogotá tire factory last December. Most of them were assigned to the highway transport services which connect the nation's railroad lines.

- *Costa Ricans* who hold government fellowships are now required to make a return by working four years for the Government at the regular salaries, unless they prefer to repay in money what has been spent for their education.

- *Venezuela* will provide for neglected children by creating eight day nurseries and five kindergartens in the city of Caracas. Children up to seven years of age will be cared for in these institutions.

- Radiotelephonic service was inaugurated between Quito, *Ecuador*, and Lima, *Peru* on December 31, 1945. The Presidents of the two countries and other government officials sent one another greetings.

- An agreement on the widening of the Caledonia railroad crossing, which is *Panama City's* major traffic bottleneck, was reached between the Panamanian Government and the Panama Canal on January 22, 1946. The project, at an estimated cost of \$30,000, is a temporary measure and does not affect an agreement between Panama and the United States on the removal of the Panama Railroad station in Panama City to another site. The Panama Canal will perform the work, and the cost of the project will be taken out of surplus credited to Panama from water rental.

- The *Peruvian* Congress recently passed a law prohibiting all dog racing in that country. Also banned are roulette wheels and all other forms of gambling, except raffles held for charitable purposes. Revenue lost to the Government as a result of this law will be compensated for by increasing other types of taxes, and the Government will see to it that those thrown out of work by the law find employment.

# NECROLOGY

JOSÉ A. BARNET Y VINAGERAS.—Cuban diplomat and former president. Born in Barcelona, Spain, on June 23, 1864, he came to Cuba when still a boy and was graduated from the Law School of the University of Habana. Later he went to Paris to finish his education.

Señor Barnet's diplomatic career began with his appointment as vice consul in Paris in 1903, shortly after the establishment of the Republic of Cuba. During the years that followed, he rose in the ranks of the consular and diplomatic service. In 1918 he was sent to China as minister plenipotentiary, in which post he remained for seven years. From 1927 to 1930 he was Cuba's minister in Rio de Janeiro. In 1933, following the September *coup d'état*, he was appointed Under Secretary of State, which office he held until January 1934. Under the provisional presidency of Colonel Carlos Mendieta, he was named Secretary of State in February 1935. When President Mendieta resigned in December 1935, Señor Barnet was unanimously elected to the presidency by the Council of State and served in that capacity until May 20, 1936, when the constitutional president, Miguel Mariano Gómez, assumed office.

During his many years of diplomatic service Señor Barnet often represented his country at international conferences. Among these were the Sixth International Conference of American States and the Second International Conference on Emigration and Immigration, Habana, 1928; and the Second Pan American Highway Congress. Señor Barnet died in Habana on September 20, 1945.

PÍO COLLIVADINO.—Eminent Argentine artist. Born in Buenos Aires, August 20, 1869, he was educated in Italy at the School of Drawing of the Società Nazionale Italiana, and National and Royal Academies of Fine Arts. He served as the Director of the Argentine National Academy of Fine Arts for 35 years. Other posts held during his long career included those of Director of the Prilidiano Pueyrredón School of Fine Arts, Inspector General of Fine Arts, and President of the Board of Directors of the Teatro Colón. He belonged to the National Commission of Fine Arts of Argentina and the Academy of Fine Arts and the International Artistic Circle of Rome, and was an honorary member of the Brera National Academy of Fine Arts of Milán. At the St. Louis Exposition of 1902 he was awarded the gold and silver medal for his *Hora del almuerzo*, and he won first prize for historical pictures in the International Centenary Exposition of 1910. He decorated the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament in the Montevideo Cathedral, and collaborated in the decoration of the Teatro Solís in Buenos Aires, the Argentine Pavilion in the Exposition of San Francisco, and the Palace of Justice in Rome. His principal paintings, which include, in addition to the *Hora del almuerzo*, *Cáin*, *Vida honesta*, *El vino*, *Pax*, and *El Tiber*, are to be found in the Marangoni Museum of Udine, Italy, the International Museum in Venice, the Private Museum of the Princess Isabel of Bourbon in Madrid, and the National Museum of Fine Arts in Buenos Aires. He died in Buenos Aires on August 26, 1945.



PLUTARCO ELÍAS CALLES.—Mexican general and former president. Born of poor parents in Guaymas, Sonora, September 25, 1877, he was left an orphan at an early age. He worked hard to obtain an education and became a teacher in a rural school while still in his teens. When the Revolution broke out in 1910, he joined the Madero forces, becoming a colonel in 1913 and a general in 1914. In 1915 he was named provisional governor and military commander of the State of Sonora and in 1918 became constitutional governor of the same State. In 1919, under President Venustiano Carranza, he served as Secretary of Industry, Commerce, and Labor, and later resigned to aid General Obregón in his campaign for the presidency. Upon the latter's election, General Calles became Minister of the Interior, a post he held until he resigned to conduct his own campaign for the presidency.

General Calles was President of Mexico from 1924 to 1928. Among the achievements of his administration may be mentioned the construction of the first highways, the beginning of a vast plan of irrigation works, and the founding of the Bank of Mexico. The most difficult problem that arose during his tenure of office was the struggle between the Church and the State that resulted in the closing for some time of all the churches throughout the Republic. Improvement in relations between the United States and Mexico during the same period was largely due to the friendship between Ambassador Dwight Morrow and General Calles.

When General Calles' term as President ended, he announced his intention to retire to private life, but because of various political crises from time to time he was kept occupied for some years thereafter. In 1932 he took over the Ministry of War

and in September 1933 he was appointed Minister of Finance, which post he held for three months. Although in retirement, he remained Mexico's strong man, a fact that was plainly apparent in the summer of 1935 when a political crisis developed after General Calles severely criticized political and economic conditions under President Lázaro Cárdenas. The crisis continued openly for some months, and in December 1935 Calles and many of his political associates and friends were expelled from the Party of the Mexican Revolution, and finally on April 11, 1936, Calles, by order of President Cárdenas, was arrested and deported to the United States. After five years of exile he returned to Mexico in May 1941 and a year later he resumed his post in the Mexican Army.

He died in Mexico City, on October 19, 1945.

LAUREANO GARCÍA ORTIZ.—Colombian diplomat, historian, critic, and bibliophile. Born in Rionegro, Antioquia, July 19, 1867; educated in Medellín and at the National University in Bogotá. Dr. García served twice in Congress, in 1917 as member of the House from Antioquia, and in 1930 as Senator from Santander. From 1918 to 1921 he was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the cabinet of President Marco Fidel Suárez. In 1925 he went as ambassador on special mission to Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, and Santiago; in 1927 he was delegate to the International American Congress of Jurists; in 1932 he went as special ambassador to Lima, Santiago, Buenos Aires, and Montevideo in connection with the Leticia incident. He served as Colombian Minister in Chile in 1933 and 1934. In 1939 he was professor of political and diplomatic history in the law school of the National University; in the same year he was a member of the National

Economic Council, and president of the Sociedad de Agricultores de Colombia. In and out of office he continued the reading and book collecting which flowered in his writings and in his famous private library, part of which was sold shortly before his death to the Banco de la República.

Dr. García Ortiz was a member of the following societies: Academia Colombiana; Academia Colombiana de Historia; Academia Española; Academia de Geografía y Historia de Chile; Academia de Historia de Antioquia; Sociétés des Américanistes, Paris; Instituto Internacional Americano. He held several decorations. He was the author of many articles published in newspapers, reviews, and learned journals in Colombia and abroad, and of the following books: *Conversando; Estudios históricos y fisionomías colombianas*, 1938; *La sociología del nacionalismo moderno; Temas nacionales*.

Dr. García Ortiz died at his home in Bogotá November 4, 1945.

JULIO PRESTES DE ALBUQUERQUE.—Brazilian lawyer and statesman. Born in

Itapetininga, São Paulo, in 1822, he was educated at the Faculty of Law in São Paulo where he received a degree as bachelor of judicial and social sciences in 1906. He was elected a state deputy in 1909, and served in five subsequent legislatures. In 1927 he became governor of the State of São Paulo, after having served as federal deputy from São Paulo, leader of the São Paulo delegation in the Federal Chamber, and chairman of the Chamber's Finance Committee. In becoming governor of São Paulo he followed in the footsteps of his father who was twice governor of the State. In 1930 he was elected President of Brazil, and as President-elect visited the principal world capitals. However, he was prevented from taking office by the *coup d'état* of Getulio Vargas. Forced to flee the country, he remained in exile until shortly before his death. He was the author of a number of legal and parliamentary studies, which are incorporated in the Annals of the São Paulo Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Chamber of Deputies. He died in São Paulo on February 9, 1946.

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BULLETIN OF THE

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OUR LADY OF MERCY, CIUDAD TRUJILLO

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



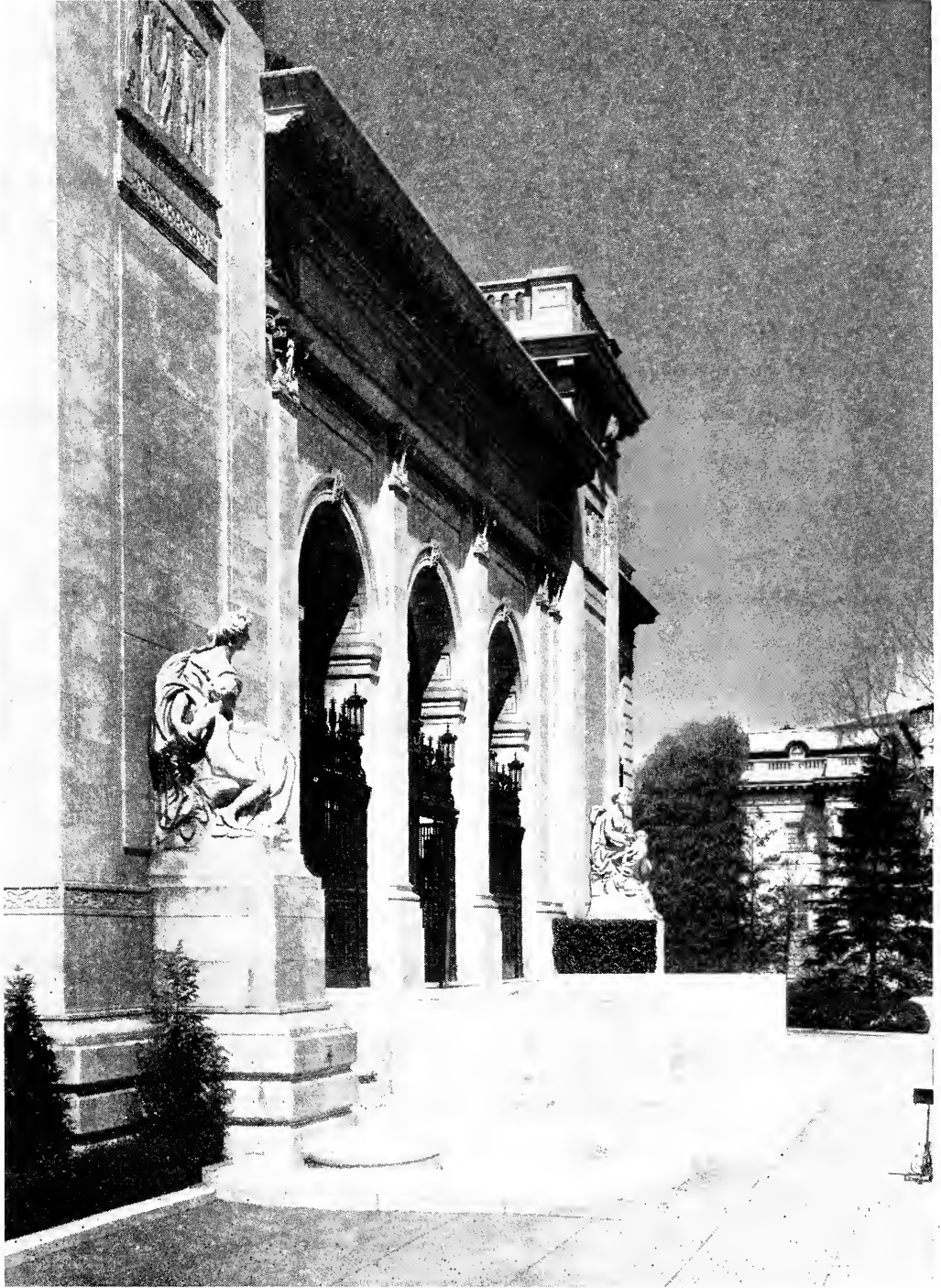




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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: XOCHIPILLI, THE AZTEC GOD OF FLOWERS, IN THE GARDEN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION



### THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

The sculptured groups represent North and South America (the latter is at the left).

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 6



JUNE 1946

## Gabriela Mistral at the Pan American Union

"I declare my faith in this institution, and to it I entrust myself as to an entity sound and strong in storm or danger."

These words came from Gabriela Mistral, the Chilean poet beloved and admired throughout the Americas, as she stood before the Governing Board of the Pan American Union on March 19 of this year. She had just come from Europe after receiving from King Gustav of Sweden the 1945 Nobel Prize for Literature, an award which gratified the entire American continent, and the Board had assembled in special session to pay her the official tribute of the Americas. The Ambassador of Chile well said, "As a citizen of America, I . . . am proud of honoring one who has known how to honor us throughout the world."

The Governing Board room was full to overflowing when Señorita Mistral entered. She was seated at the right of the Brazilian Ambassador, Honorable Carlos

Martins, then Chairman of the Board, who addressed her in these words:

SEÑORITA MISTRAL:

The Governing Board of the Pan American Union is honored to welcome you today. There is nothing more fitting than that your voice be heard in this temple of the Americas.

We are witnessing the beginning of a new era for humanity. It will rest on justice and on love, renouncing for ever the belief that might makes right.

God gave us this world full of beauty and infinite possibilities, but man's genius must dominate it and utilize its greatness and wealth. God gives us the raw material, but man is the artificer of his own destiny on earth.

On the threshold of the new Era of the Americas, which is illumined by the sun of justice, we are commanded now, as we were long ago, to work for the realization of an ideal.

This aspiration guides the American governments, but if it is to be truly effective it must penetrate deeply into the heart of all Americans. Therefore the concerted action of our governments should rest on the spiritual union of our peoples.

It is with special pleasure that I have the privilege, as Chairman of the Governing Board, of



Photograph by George Hirschman

#### GABRIELA MISTRAL

greeting you, Gabriela Mistral, and of thus evoking the true and eternal America sung in your inspired lines.

With the Andine fury of the winds or with the sweetness of childhood you, the poet of America, express the American spirit. Dwelling on the tranquil heights above minor differences and national frontiers, your heart vibrates with "a single aspiration"; enraptured, you make "a universal gesture of love."

Continue, singer of America, this work of faith and of love. Yours are these words: "Chant hymns full of hope, scatter the seed."

The room was hushed with expectation as Gabriela Mistral rose to reply. Her words of praise and stimulation for the Pan American Union were these:

Old memories vibrate around me in this place, as I see again its leafy patio, its stark white walls, and the noble and furrowed face of my eminent friend Doctor Rowe. It was twenty-four years ago that the Pan American Union first bade me welcome; and now eight years have gone by since these doors were opened to me once again. Under the bridges of those three dates have flowed

the waters of time, inscrutable in their constant change.

To us of the South this building seemed at first half alien, for Cancer and Capricorn had long been in opposition. Fifteen years later we had begun to think of it as a friendly place, and before its fortieth year there was already burning the warm flame of a heightened understanding. Now the North and the South are side by side; now they touch each other.

Because the political members of this household come and go, the role of its permanent head is of double importance. Three traits of his race are giving valuable aid to Doctor Rowe—a will to serve, an abundant kindness, and modesty. They are traits too seldom found among the nations, great ladies that are wont to show themselves as stiff and cool as do the ladies in ancestral portraits. May God keep Doctor Rowe for having tamed here more than one evil spirit! He has subdued the demon of suspicion, the demon of stony nationalism, and the demon of capricious fickleness. There was a Frenchman who used to say: "The first thing is to endure." Whatever we make is ripening while we hold it in our hands.

Another generous soul, Don Pedro de Alba, has been watching over this invaluable work. He is a Mexican, and as such he is shaped in the pattern of his native land; the bounty of that horn of plenty is continually being poured out upon others.

Your first feat of magic, Doctor Rowe, was to make this a place of friendly intercourse; your second was to keep the institution a living thing, to vanquish inertia, that obscure law of the universe, the reverse of the divine forces of creation.

Ever since the Swedish Academy made its award, people have been bestowing upon me honors that I never earned or even dreamed of. If I did not have before me the dreadful panorama of the world, like the avenging delirium of our father Dante, if I did not have all this before me, I should not know what to make of this bandying of my poor woman's name in the press and over the wires. But at every moment I see and feel this satanic postwar panorama, which faces us and which cries out to all of us together with its furious challenge. What brings me peace and understanding in this present tumult is the thought that here is a call for all the reluctant, the idle, and the solitary, a call to a sort of spiritual militia of the Americas, to a force of fighting angels, as your Pearl Buck would say. I seem to see the scattered lanterns of the searchers, bobbing about in the postwar night through all the byways of

the continent, their search growing ever more anxious.

But let us understand one another. I am searching, like you, for "the laborers in the vineyard," as the Gospel says; I too am painfully carrying around the lantern of my straining eyes. I keep vigil with you, and share your anxiety; I bring back with me from Europe an accumulated awareness of the perils that threaten America. I am no strong arm to lean on; still less am I the treasure all have sought; I am only one more among the searchers who stand guard in the darkness, watching over three prized possessions in their time of danger. In any case, our selves do not matter much; what matters is that these divine gifts, Freedom, Peace and Democracy, shall not be torn from our heavens.

Señor Martins: I declare my faith in this institution, and to it I entrust myself as to an entity sound and strong in storm or danger. I am one whose knowledge is no more than the knowledge of others, and whose power is less than almost anyone's. To be a woman is still to suffer a slight paralysis; and to move through the open spaces of the young Americas with hair that is more than graying is an appeal for a release, not for the soul that God created and keeps under His care, but for a release for the body, and this my mother earth is already granting me.

Your task, sirs—and you have never had a greater—is to keep the continent free from worldwide madness, from physical misery, and from the fatalistic and resigned depression that grows out of it. And while you are discharging this duty it is equally incumbent upon you, agents and interpreters of our spirit, not to slip on the treacherous stones of a certain almost zoological kind of nationalism which would station us here, would pin us in flesh and spirit to a single meridian, as if we were no more than the llama or the alpaca of the Aymaras. (I place a high value upon those graceful beasts of mine, but I know that the men of America cannot be circumscribed by the puna or the valley or the sea line where the penguins nest.)

The men and women and even the children of the three Americas have been trained and steeped to the core in certain phrases, which are as vertical as a thunderbolt, and cannot possibly be pushed askew. They are: "Thy kingdom come," "our daily bread," and "deliver us from evil," phrases which convey universality and social justice in their very marrow. The Lord's Prayer begins and ends in a plural as round and unqualified as the blow of a hammer or the piercing phrases of

the litanies. The prayers which came later are for the most part entirely individual; perhaps for that reason they are more like counter-prayers, a perverse pagan about-face.

We left our course when we began to say that "we" with a mind that was blank or wandering; when habit turned our prayers into a mere repetition, and their meaning went flat and stale.

I am not an impassioned patriot, nor a Pan Americanist intoxicated by the magnificence of the continent. I have come to know almost the whole hemisphere, from Canada to Tierra del Fuego; I have eaten at the grandest and the humblest tables; my very flesh is permeated with an infusion of the soil of this continent. And I make bold to say, without fear of seeming strange, that the poverty of Central America concerns me as much as that of the Indian on the Straits of Magellan, and that the naked Negro of the farthest corner of the Tropics brings as much shame to me as to his fellow countrymen.

In olden days the peace of the continent was based upon Spanish and Portuguese harquebuses; order was rooted in them. Under the republican regime peace took in a new ingredient—civil and international law. But the peace which is now our first duty must include yet another element—economic justice, and that not doled out by grams. The old-time peace gave no attention to this factor; South America has lived through some confused and near-sighted times which offered no presentiment of this obligation. Yet we had at hand, far to the north in the rectangle of the United States, a nation which on this point has been a leader from its birth.

It is a fact to be seen in any group of laborers that when one of them grows weary, because his section of ore or of stone is especially hard, he casts a beseeching glance toward the others who are fresh or who have finished their own stints. For us the United States must play the part of those obliging miners or stonecutters. In South America the labor of bringing together different kinds of souls and bodies, leading them into the same way of life or weaving together the various stocks like wool and cotton on a loom, is an undertaking that is much more protracted than Bolívar's crossing of the Andes, and more complex than an exploration of the watery network of the Amazon. The people of the United States will have to give us cooperation and generous understanding.

Here is a task for nature and for a higher power, to make men from a crossing of races, to develop European communities in countries

which have more of the tragic than of the idyllic, and to do it upon the ruins of an age-old civilization which has been wiped out. Add to this some thorny European legacies, such as the irrepressible Iberian individualism and the vestiges of feudalism surviving from men of the Renaissance, and you will easily see, you of the United States, why we seem slow, why our progress is broken by abrupt halts. (In those halts we shape our course afresh, or gather our strength for periods of forced march.) My country is one of those which have leaped forward, to make up for lost time. Uruguay has come to maturity; Argentina prospered first of all; every one of the others is engaged in the struggle, reaching some part of its goal, and Mexico has paid in blood. We ask you not only to help us with dollars and machines, but also to know and, above all, to understand us.

We need to unify our countries from within by means of an education which shall grow to a national awareness, and of a redistribution of welfare which shall bring us to a stable equilibrium. We need also to unify those countries of ours in a harmonious rhythm that shall be almost Pythagorean, a rhythm in which those twenty spheres

shall move freely, even gracefully, without ever colliding. We are driven by an ambition that is still confused; but it has come coursing through our blood from the Platonic archetypes down to the tempestuous and careworn Bolívar, whose dream we are trying to bring to reality. But we must begin with the Good if we are to attain the Beautiful. A twisted good like totalitarianism, even though it comes of classical and Christian line, turns in the end into a Gorgon or a monster.

Our people use the beautiful word "neighbor" as an equivalent for "fellow man," and they have the same double use for the word "Christian," which means "believer" but also simply "man." Let us see to it on this continent that our neighbor is a fellow man, and let us endeavor to make the noun "Christian" describe the just man. For there are millions of our Indians who are not yet our fellow men. Neither are the mixed races in our fields, who do not yet know how to cultivate the soil of South America to the point of producing enough for our needs. Nor is our middle class full grown, that class aloof from the masses, which does not maintain enough contact with the people to spread its enlightenment and release the flood of the people's own creations, to



Photograph by George Hirschman

#### GABRIELA MISTRAL SPEAKS TO THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

The Chilean poet and Nobel Prize winner gave "a call to a sort of spiritual militia of the Americas."

bring dignity, happiness, honor, and well-being.

Men of America, to whom our destiny has been entrusted: We wish to act in defense of freedom as the United States does; we wish, as the United States wishes, to ensure a peace coupled with social justice; and we wish also to create a democracy imbued with the intangibles of Mediterranean lands, and compounded with the lines of Greece and Rome, ancestors of the men of European America. For if our civilization of the future did not have the savor of our own blood, how could we feel it to be our own creation?

At the close of her address, Gabriela Mistral spoke a few words of greeting to her friend Victoria Ocampo, the Argentine writer. She said:

With us today incognita, as she has wished it, is a distinguished Argentine, my companion in authorship, my companion in various battles on behalf of underprivileged children, my companion in friendship, one who is loved to an exceptional degree and warmly admired. Some years ago I left a poem for her in her house at Mar del Plata, and I wish to greet her today by reading this poem and thus bringing it to mind again. I wish to read it also so that by this means those present may learn to know her a little:

### Recado a Victoria Ocampo en la Argentina

Victoria, la costa a que me trajiste,  
tiene dulces los pastos y salobre el viento,  
el mar Atlántico como crin de potros  
y los ganados como el mar Atlántico.

Y tu casa, Victoria, tiene alhucema,  
y verídicos tiene hierro y maderas,  
conversación, lealtad y muros.

Albañil, plomero, vidriero,  
midieron sin compases, midieron mirándote,  
midieron, midieron . . .

Y la casa, que es tu vaina,  
medio es tu madre, medio tu hija . . .  
Industria te hicieron de paz y sueño;  
puertas dieron a tu antojo  
umbral tendieron a tus pies . . .

Yo no sé si es mejor fruta que pan  
y es el vino mejor que la leche en tu mesa.  
Tú decidiste ser "la terrestre,"  
y te sirve la Tierra de la mano a la mano,  
con espiga y horno, cepa y lagar.

La casa y el jardín cruzan los niños;  
ellos parten tus ojos yendo y viniendo;  
sus siete nombres llenan tu boca,  
sus donaires sueltan tu risa  
y te enredas con ellos en hierbas locas  
o te caes con ellos pasando médanos.

Gracias por el sueño que me dió tu casa,  
que fué de vellón de lana merino;  
por toda hora en que olí alhucema,  
por la mañana en que olí las torcazas;  
por tu ocurrencia de "fuente de pájaros,"  
por tanto verde en mis ojos heridos,  
y bocanada de sal en mi aliento:  
por tu paciencia para poetas  
de los cuarenta puntos cardinales . . .

Te quiero porque eres vasca  
y eres terca y apuntas lejos,  
a lo que viene y aún no llega;  
y porque te pareces a bultos naturales;  
a maíz que rebosa la América,  
—rebosa mano, rebosa boca—,  
y a la Pampa que es de su viento  
y al alma que es del Dios tremendo . . .

Te digo adiós y aquí te dejo,  
como te hallé, sentada en dunas.  
Te encargo tierras de la América,  
¡a tí tan ceiba y tan flamenco,  
y tan andina y tan fluvial  
y tan cascada cegadora  
y relámpago de la Pampa!

Guarda libres a tu Argentina  
el viento, el cielo y las trojes;  
libre la Cartilla, libre el rezo,  
libre el canto, libre el llanto,  
el pericón y la milonga,  
libre el lazo, libre el galope:  
¡el dolor libre, la dicha libre!

Por la Ley vieja de la Tierra;  
por lo que es, por lo que ha sido,  
por tu sangre y por la mía,  
¡por Martín Fierro y el Gran Cuyano<sup>1</sup>  
y por Nuestro Señor Jesucristo!

The Representative of Guatemala, Señor don Rafael Arévalo Martínez, himself a poet, saluted Gabriela Mistral in the following words:

"Philosophy, science, and art are feminine; only action is masculine," it has been said.

<sup>1</sup> *San Martín*.



This is the same as saying, "The spirit is feminine." Indeed, the scepter of poetry in America has for some years been held by women—the names of Juana de Ibarbourou, Delmira Agustini, Alfonsina Storni, Gabriela Mistral, are sufficient to prove this assertion.

What are the chief attributes of Gabriela Mistral's poetry? In form, simplicity—although sometimes her passion has been called grandiloquence; in its depths, eternity.

The message that truly breathes eternity strips itself of trappings until truth itself is revealed. Gabriela has done this; she speaks her eternal message in restrained and simple words full of her affirmation of the spiritual.

One day I stood for a long time lost in prayer-like admiration before a cane fence crowned with convolvulus that framed an Indian cabin in my country. What a marvel of form and color was presented by the rude palings and their adornment of wild flowers! No human hands could produce anything to equal their mystic beauty. I gazed until a child roused me from my trance. A few days later my eyes realized that no other color could vie in beauty with the earthy hue of the bare adobes, without coating or whitewash, of a rustic native inn.

Thus by the hue of the earth, by the simplicity of palings and azure flowers, Gabriela Mistral gives substance—at times harsh and unadorned—to her poems in prose or in verse. She does what another poet noted for his simplicity, Amado Nervo, did before her in the Mexico that she loves so dearly. Her poems, all too few in number, have been collected in *Desolación*—New York, 1922—and *Tala*<sup>2</sup>—Buenos Aires, 1938.

All praise to Gabriela and to Chile, her great Spanish American country, which she extols. Here in this building that represents the unity of America, here in the home of the Pan American Union, Washington welcomes and acclaims her today. As a writer, teacher, and woman of good will she received from the hands of King Gustav of Sweden world recognition in the Nobel Prize, just as in 1924 she received in this capital recognition from America, represented by its ambassadors and by the women's organizations of the United States, at a ceremony, under the auspices of the Chilean Embassy and the Pan American Union, over which the Secretary of State presided.

It is in truth all America that is glorifying Gabriela Mistral today through this tribute of the

Pan American Union. Here, too, only a short time ago, she was eulogized in the eloquent and generous words of Pedro de Alba and other admirers. The America that honors her is the America that has known her gifts of beauty and kindness, her help for the helpless, her sponsorship of everything for the good of mankind. Some countries, for example my own Guatemala, whose President is another teacher, Dr. Juan José Arévalo, have named schools in her honor, and in them are springing to life many seeds that she has planted—seeds of Pan Americanism, international law, and faith in the creative spirit. Where has Gabriela Mistral walked that she has not left this goodly mark of her passing?

The Ambassador of Chile, the Honorable Marcial Mora, then spoke in honor of his countrywoman, saying:

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

You will understand the pride felt by all Chileans when we see the most important organization responsible for relations among the countries of the Americas paying tribute to our compatriot, Gabriela Mistral. She has come to be known as a representative of America. Now she returns to us after having received the 1945 Nobel Prize, and thus being numbered because of her poetical genius among the great creators of world literature.

It is deeply significant that Gabriela Mistral is now with us in the same room in which the representatives of all the republics of the continent assemble to discuss inter-American problems with great faith and hope in the maintenance of a spiritual and political system to make the Americas a homogeneous, living, and harmonious organism. I venture to say that on this occasion we are not only rendering a tribute but at the same time receiving an inspiration.

Gabriela Mistral may be considered an embodiment of the spirit that animates the Pan American Union. In her is incarnate the Pan Americanism that is not only the coordination of the official policy of neighboring though diverse republics but also the profound integration of the will and destiny of our peoples, the expression of a collective soul that day by day affirms its indivisibility and its vigor.

It is now many years since Gabriela Mistral has been going up and down this continent, from one country to another, with the gospel of her poetry and her humanism. With true perception our people have made her a symbol, and the tribute

<sup>2</sup> Published by Ediciones Sur, directed by Victoria Ocampo.



that is always paid her wherever she goes, the unanimity of feeling that has always enveloped her name, the response aroused by her poetry in the innermost depths of the heart, are the consequence not only of the spell that she casts but also of the mission that she fulfills.

And this mission is to scatter the seed of a new cultural and social creed, of a new democracy more authentic and less formal, of a new internationalism that is based more and more each day on the aspirations and concrete needs of our peoples.

She has identified the cause of poetry with the cause of liberty, and has made creative thought the principal bulwark against any kind of oppression and servitude. Her achievement stems from her desire to serve humanity. Her whole work, although permeated with sorrow, is full of faith, of confidence in mankind, of a serious summons to responsibility, of confidence in the destiny of our nations. She has never withdrawn from a world or a generation shaken by deep crises; she has never feared to meet problems; she has always proclaimed love and truth.

Therefore, throughout America, Gabriela has made a place in the heart of our nations, and her poetry is received as revelation and prophecy.

If the Nobel Prize was her world recognition as

poet, this tribute today is recognition through her of the spiritual solidarity of the American nations.

As a Chilean, in the name of my country and of my Government, permit me to express my thanks to my colleagues on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union; but as a citizen of America, I, like them, am proud of honoring one who has known how to honor us throughout the world.

The meeting was concluded by the Representative of Argentina, the Honorable Rodolfo García Arias, who said:

When I was appointed Representative of my Government to the Pan American Union I thought that honor and responsibility were implicit in the position, but I did not dream that it would offer me the pleasure of representing Argentina at a ceremony rendering a well deserved tribute so important to the literary life and thought not only of Chile and of the American continent but of the whole world. Certainly I did not imagine that under such circumstances, with all that they imply for the letters and the culture of my country, I should have the additional satisfaction of expressing my thanks for the gracious reference to my compatriot, Señorita Ocampo, that we have just heard from the great poet Gabriela Mistral.

## Pan American Day in Washington

THE President of the United States led the celebration of Pan American Day in Washington this year. Several weeks beforehand he had issued a proclamation ordering that the week beginning April 14, the anniversary of the founding of the Pan American Union in 1890, be designated Pan American Week and urging States, cities, schools, and the people in general to observe the week fittingly, in any of numerous ways that they might choose.

On Monday, April 15, President Truman came to the Pan American Union at noon to make an address before a

special session of the Governing Board. Washington was at the height of its springtime loveliness. The bright sun shone on the twenty-one flags of the American republics flying in front of the beautiful building, and the very air seemed full of promise and good will.

Inside the scene was impressive. In the great vaulted Hall of the Americas the members of the Board sat on the stage in their tall carved chairs; behind them were massed their countries' flags, reminding the audience that these men represented the voluntary union of the 280,000,000 people of the Americas in



Associated Press

#### PRESIDENT TRUMAN ON PAN AMERICAN DAY

The President addressed a special session of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

one continental community. The room was filled with cabinet members and other personages from diplomatic and Government circles, including Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. High officers from the armed services of the United States and the other American republics also joined in the celebration. The gathering made a brilliant spectacle.

Those present on such occasions in other years could not fail to think of President Roosevelt, who had here affirmed the Good Neighbor Policy soon after he first took office and who continues to be revered as a symbol of democracy throughout the Western Hemisphere.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States," said the Honorable Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, Chairman of the Board.

President Truman rose to speak of democracy, cooperation, and the Pan American system, first paying a tribute to President Roosevelt and Mr. Hull. He said:

I have long looked forward to this opportunity to meet with the members of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

No one can address a meeting of the representatives of the Republics of the Western Hemisphere without thinking of the men who did so much to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation among them—my predecessor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and his great Secretary of State Cordell Hull. The names of President Roosevelt and Mr. Hull will be revered in history for many accomplishments. A long line of inter-American conferences and inter-American agreements shows how successful has been their Good Neighbor Policy.

History will also record President Roosevelt's many efforts before 1939 toward preventing war and spreading this Good Neighbor Policy to the rest of the world. He was thwarted by the madness and desire for world conquest on the part of the Axis dictators and aggressors. But even while the United Nations waged war to defeat the Nazis and Fascists, the United States began to lay the solid foundations for a Good Neighbor Policy for the whole world. I need not repeat to you the

steps which were taken by our Government under Roosevelt's leadership. You are familiar with them, and you know how solidly the foundations were laid.

Based on those foundations the United Nations has now been launched on its career. I know that it will succeed. It must succeed.

Before us now, lies a new era in which the power of atomic energy has been released. That age will either be one of complete devastation, or one in which new sources of power will lighten the labors of mankind and increase standards of living all over the world.

It is a great and dangerous adventure which we face. In it the people of all the American Republics will have to play their special part. During the 1930's the special part which the American Republics played in world history was to perfect and strengthen their methods of consultation and cooperation. They did this primarily to meet the growing threat of war from overseas. And when war finally came, the weight of the Americas was overwhelmingly on the side of the forces which defeated the Axis powers.

In the years that lie ahead, it will be the task of the American Republics to do their part in creating and maintaining a system of world peace which will eliminate the fear of war and establish in its place a rule of justice and world cooperation.

To maintain a lasting peace, the peoples of the world have now shown their willingness to use force, if necessary, to prevent aggression or the threat of aggression.

We all realize, however, that the exercise of this kind of force, while it may hold aggressors in check, will not of itself eliminate the deep causes of unrest such as those responsible for World War II. Underneath the Nazi madness were the material distress and spiritual starvation born of poverty and despair. These evil forces were seized upon by evil men to launch their program of tyranny and aggression.

The danger of war will never be completely wiped out until these economic ills which constitute the roots of war are themselves eliminated. To do that we must achieve the kind of life—material, cultural and spiritual—to which the peoples of this world are entitled. To that objective we must all dedicate our energies and resources.

I know of no one word which more fully embodies this objective than the word "democracy." It was the symbol and the hope of democracy which liberated the world from Nazi and Japanese slavery. Democracy was the objective which

gave strength to the brave men and women of the underground in the enslaved countries of Europe and Asia. Democracy is the rallying cry today for free men everywhere in their struggle for a better human life.

We all appreciate that this word "democracy" carries different meanings in different languages. In different parts of the world it will have different connotations. It is fortunate that we of the Pan American Nations do have certain common, fundamental understandings of what the word "democracy" means. Despite our differences in language and cultures, we do have in common a love of liberty, a recognition of the dignity of man and a desire to improve the material and spiritual well-being of our citizens.

Time and again the American Republics have met to reaffirm their devotion to those ideals of democracy. They have done this in the face of constant propaganda for Nazi and Fascist doctrines. And in the postwar world I am sure these American Republics will reaffirm the bold stand for democracy with which they have resisted the forces of reaction from abroad during the last decade.

Only recently, at the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace at Mexico City, they repeated "their fervent adherence to democratic principles, which they consider essential for the peace of the Americas."

Certain political rights are fundamental to freedom—free speech, a free press, the right of peaceable assembly, freedom of conscience, and the right of the people to choose their form of government.

It is obvious that these goals require first of all the efforts of each nation within itself. But if we have learned anything in the last decade it is that no nation can stand alone. Only through a genuine cooperative effort can these goals be achieved in the world at large. They require international cooperation toward expanding production, increasing world trade, and developing

natural resources so that all efforts to improve living standards may rest upon a solid basis.

That kind of cooperation is inherent in the principles which have guided the Pan American program in the past. We must translate those principles into effective action and tangible results in the future.

Our American tradition rests on the belief that the state exists for the benefit of man. The American Republics have overwhelmingly rejected the false doctrine that man exists for the benefit of the state. We must now prove that international cooperation, too, exists only for the benefit of man. The peoples of the Americas have a right to expect of the Pan American system that it show its validity by promoting those liberties and principles which the word "democracy" implies to them. Pan American solidarity must prove itself to be in fact a bulwark of democratic peace.

If we dedicate ourselves to this objective, we shall make the fullest contribution to the welfare of our own people and of the world at large. By giving tangible expression to the meaning of democracy, we shall widen and strengthen its hold upon the imagination of the world. In that way we can revitalize, through our Pan American cooperation, the faith of peoples everywhere in their ability to build a peaceful world upon a firm foundation.

The same evening the Hall was the scene of a delightful concert. The string orchestra of the United States Marine Band Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Capt. William F. Santelmann, played three excellent numbers and Miss Alice Ribeiro, a gifted Brazilian soprano, sang several groups of songs which gave the large audience much pleasure and were warmly applauded. Her accompanist was Ettore Alimonda. The interesting program follows:

## I

Juan Bautista Plaza (Venezuela) b. 1898

Fuga Criolla

Domingo Santa Cruz (Chile) b. 1899

Three movements from Cinco Piezas Breves

Grave

Inquieto doloroso

Algo movido

STRING ORCHESTRA OF THE  
UNITED STATES MARINE BAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## II

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756-1791  
 Enrique Granados, 1867-1916  
 Joaquín Turina, b. 1882  
 Richard Hageman (United States) b. 1882  
 Pietro Cimara, b. 1887

Porgi Amor (From *Le Nozze di Figaro*)  
 El Majo Discreto  
 Cantares  
 Do Not Go, My Love  
 Canto di Primavera

ALICE RIBEIRO

## III

Paul White (United States) b. 1895

Sinfonietta for string orchestra, Op. 8  
 Allegro  
 Andante  
 Allegro

STRING ORCHESTRA OF THE  
 UNITED STATES MARINE BAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

## IV

Serchs by Brazilian Composers

Francisco Mignone, b. 1897  
 Ernani Braga  
 José Siqueira, b. 1907  
 Waldemar Henrique  
 Jayme Ovalle, b. 1894  
 Carlos Gomes, 1836-1896

Quando uma Flor Desabrocha  
 Engenho Novo  
 Reminiscência  
 Côco Peneruê  
 Azulão  
 Mamma Dice

ALICE RIBEIRO

## V

Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil) b. 1884

Suite para instrumentos de cordas  
 Música tímida  
 Música misteriosa  
 Música inquieta

STRING ORCHESTRA OF THE  
 UNITED STATES MARINE BAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

While the President was speaking at the Pan American Union, the Congress of the United States was also commemorating Pan American Day. In the Senate a significant address was made by Senator Tom Connally, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. He said in part:

A little over a decade ago, Mr. President, the Presidents of the twenty-one Republics, members of the Pan American Union, by executive order designated April 14 as Pan American Day. The purpose of this action, taken in all the countries of the Western Hemisphere, was to impress upon the nations of the hemisphere the significance of the long road which they have travelled together in their quest for unity of

purpose and policy. It was also designed to remind them of the grave responsibilities involved in the maintenance of peace and security on this hemisphere as well as the great contributions which the American Republics are called upon to make to the maintenance of peace all over the world.

It must be a source of unending satisfaction to every citizen of the Americas to look back upon the splendid record of accomplishment not only in the peaceful settlement of disputes but also in promoting inter-American cooperation in the solution of common economic and social problems. . . .

I remind the Senate with justifiable pride that we in the New World established the Pan American Union 30 years before the League of Nations first saw the light of day. The Union was, in effect, the first international organization of a

general character working on behalf of peace among the nations. This fact stands in the record of history as a lasting tribute to the vision of the men and women of the new World.

We must all bear in mind, Mr. President, that to the nations of the Americas peace has a far deeper meaning than the mere absence of armed conflict. It is a positive concept involving mutual helpfulness in the solution of common problems; it involves the placing of the experience of each and every one at the disposal of all.

... the inter-American system is not based on buildings and organizations alone. It goes far beyond mere bricks and mortar. We have agreed upon a core of common ideals which bestow upon the inter-American system its life and vitality.

In the House of Representatives many members spoke in connection with the observance of the Day. The leading part was taken by the Honorable Pete Jarman, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Latin American Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr. Jarman, who was congratulated on the work of his committee, spoke warmly of inter-American friendship, expressing himself in part as follows:

Today Pan American Day has become one of the significant anniversaries of the country. It is the only day set apart by the governments of an entire continent to symbolize their common bond and their common hope for a system of international relations based on mutual respect and cooperation. The observance of Pan American Day by government leaders, as well as by educational institutions, clubs, commercial associations, and other groups, and its recognition by the press and radio, conveys its message of solidarity to young and old throughout the continent. It has become a powerful aid in bringing about a closer understanding among the nations of the Western Hemisphere.

The theme for 1946, the sixteenth annual observance of the day, is "Free and united, the Americas go forward." I repeat, "Free and united, the Americas go forward."

Other representatives who had served as delegates at inter-American conferences or on committees entailing visits to Latin America added their voices to those wish-

ing well to the Pan American Union and its members on its fifty-sixth anniversary. The Honorable Frances Bolton expressed the consensus well when she said:

We are celebrating here today the first Pan American Day since victory in Europe and victory in Japan; and we in the United States will not forget the Brazilian soldiers in Italy and the Mexican airmen over the Pacific who died to help win those victories. Nor shall we ever forget that when we were attacked at Pearl Harbor, the little Central American Republic of Costa Rica was the first in this hemisphere—a few hours ahead of the United States itself—in declaring war on Japan with the gallant assertion that whenever any American country is attacked, Costa Rica is attacked.

We have had borne in upon us during the years of war the knowledge that in spite of all our differences of nationality and custom and language, we peoples of the twenty-one Republics of America have a real bond of union in the Americanism that is our common heritage and our way of life throughout the Western Hemisphere.

And the Honorable John E. Rankin recalled one of the prime tenets of the Pan American Union when he said:

This day commemorates the political economy and the spiritual unity of the Americas based on the doctrine of absolute juridical equality and respect for the sovereignty of each.

The commemoration in the House of Representatives was terminated by the passage of a resolution recognizing the Pan American Union as one of the world's oldest international organizations; reaffirming the belief of the House in the principle of friendly cooperation for the solution of all problems which face the countries of this hemisphere, a principle that is a cornerstone of the inter-American system; extending its most cordial greetings to the other popular representative organs of each of the other American republics; and felicitating the Pan American Union on its anniversary. Copies of the resolution are to be sent to the legislative bodies of the other American republics.

The Inter-American Defense Board united the commemoration of Pan American Day with the celebration of its own fourth anniversary. At the morning session, the chief address was made by General Armando Revoredo of Peru, after introductory remarks by Lieutenant General M. B. Ridgway, U. S. A., the Chairman. In the course of his discussion General Revoredo said:

During the tragic period of the war, the successes and reverses met in the conduct of military operations continued to bind our peoples more closely, first because of the immediate danger and secondly because, through emergency measures which brought into contact men and institutions hitherto unknown to each other, we were becoming acquainted and were learning to respect and like each other. These sentiments, which were growing in the soul of our peoples, have been and still are most clearly appreciated in this group, because of the nature of its purpose—defense—and because of the essentially military personality of the individuals who compose it.

Peace has come and has brought complex problems with it. The Inter-American Defense Board has established firm foundations for the defense of the Hemisphere, and, although its resolutions are merely recommendations offered for the approval of the various governments, they are, however, cornerstones for the present and future organization of Hemisphere defense, exactly for the reason that they are motivated by Hemisphere-wide interest. We know, among the appreciable results of the Board's work, that the problems of land, sea, and air transportation have already been outlined; the bases for military co-operation have already been laid; and the advantages have been affirmed of unity of training and uniformity of matériel. But above all, gentlemen, there exists, in the individual feeling of the members of this body and in the collective mind of our organization, the conviction that America's problem is one problem.

After the meeting adjourned, the Inter-American Defense Board heard President Truman at the Pan American Union and then entertained at luncheon at the Mayflower the members of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, General of the Army Eisenhower, Fleet

Admiral Nimitz, and General Spaatz, Commanding General, United States Army Air Forces.

General Eisenhower, who was one of the guests called upon to speak extemporaneously after the luncheon, said in closing:

I believe that in the Americas more than in other countries are still remaining those shreds of the pioneering spirit that brought our forefathers into every country of the Americas from Europe. They did not have someone to take care of them. They had to take care of themselves. That pioneering spirit, that determination to go and live their lives as they please which, as I understand it, is at the basis of our understanding of democracy, is still with us in great measure. If we can take those assets that we have of that type, work with them and develop them as brothers, and with the certainty that we are going to remain in peace among ourselves to develop our own idea of world peace, then we will be doing a great deal for ourselves and for the whole world.

Two other events of an official character took place in Pan American Week. At both the Pan American Union was represented.

The Honorable Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, held a reception on April 16 in his office for twenty-six Latin American trainees studying under the Fourth Latin American Aviation Training Program. Among the one hundred guests present were the Honorable William Benton, Assistant Secretary of State, Orville Wright, the famous inventor, and prominent officials of the Department of Commerce and the Civil Aeronautics Administration. The Latin Americans thus honored were brought to the United States under the sponsorship of the Inter-departmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation and assigned to the Department of Commerce for their training.

Another Cabinet officer, the Honorable Clinton B. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, invited a number of Latin Americans to be his guests at luncheon on April 18. These were the agricultural repre-

sentatives of the American republics attached to the several embassies in Washington. "Since agriculture is the basis of our Western Hemisphere civilization," said Secretary Anderson, "it is axiomatic that the progress of the Americas . . . necessarily involves the strengthening of our hemispheric agricultural harmony." He assured his guests that the United States Department of Agriculture would always

be glad to do its part in this undertaking.

Both the Columbus Memorial Library of the Pan American Union and the Library of Congress had exhibits bearing on Pan American Day. The original proceedings of the First International Conference of American States, with the signatures of the delegates, a loan from the Pan American Union, were shown under glass at the Library of Congress.



## Alfredo Machado Hernández

### *Ambassador of Venezuela*

DR. ALFREDO MACHADO HERNÁNDEZ, the new Ambassador of Venezuela before the Government of the United States and representative of his country, with the same rank, on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, is an eminent jurist and diplomat who has for many years given valuable service to his country both at home and abroad.

Dr. Machado was born in Caracas on November 19, 1886. He was graduated from the Central University of Venezuela with the degree of Doctor of Political Sciences in 1907 and in the same year began his studies in law at the Law School of the Federal District of Venezuela. In 1909 he went to France and for the following two years continued to study civil and commercial law and political economy at the Paris Law School, and public and international law at the Free School of Political Sciences in the same city.

Returning then to Venezuela, Dr. Machado devoted himself during the years 1912-35 to the practice of his profession, acting as consulting attorney for banks, mining companies, and commercial and industrial houses. During the same period he taught private international law and diplomatic history in the Caracas School of Diplomacy.

In 1936 he left his profession to give his entire time to business, especially the establishment and development of industries in Venezuela, and to a project for the improvement and development of the city of Caracas. At the same time he began to take an active part in governmental affairs and in the following years his services were almost constantly at the disposal of the Government. On many occasions he has cooperated in various special studies related to national finance and economy. He was a member of the Commission





ALFREDO MACHADO HERNÁNDEZ  
Venezuelan member of the Governing Board.

on Fiscal Laws; helped establish the Central Bank and was a member of its first Board of Directors; was chairman of the Committee on Agrarian Reform; Vice Chairman of the organization charged with planning the University City; and, more recently, a member of the Interministerial Commission for the Study of Post-war Problems.

Dr. Machado's first diplomatic assignment came in 1938 when he was named Minister of Venezuela in Peru. In the same year he served as delegate to the

Eighth International Conference of American States that met in Lima.

From 1941 to 1943 he was Minister of the Treasury and while filling that post he initiated Venezuela's tax reform. One of the notable features of the reform was the levying of the income tax, thereby assuring the Government of a steady source of revenue and accomplishing a reduction in tariff duties and other indirect taxes. When he resigned that office, he returned to the Board of Directors of the Central Bank and to business, to work again for the establishment of new and, from the standpoint of Venezuelan economy and progress, highly important industrial enterprises on the basis of joint Venezuelan and United States capital.

In 1942 Dr. Machado was a member of the Venezuelan delegation to the Third Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs at Rio de Janeiro, and in 1945 he was a delegate to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. Later in 1945 he was named Ambassador to Argentina, which post he was holding at the time of his appointment to Washington.

In addition to his numerous professional, business, and diplomatic activities, Dr. Machado has found time to make many addresses and to write studies on economic, ethnographic, and historical subjects; to establish one of the most complete collections of colonial art in Venezuela; and to found the Museum of Colonial Art of Caracas, in cooperation with the Venezuelan Government and the Association of the Friends of Colonial Art, of which organization he is president.

# Modern Trends in Latin American Literature

PEDRO DE ALBA

*Assistant Director, Pan American Union*

THE University of Miami is a most appropriate setting for the discussion of the literature of Spain and Spanish America.

In this region memories of the grandeur that was Spain are still vivid. Today questing thought and actual routes of travel spread from here in all directions and one constantly feels the ebb and flow of the current between the United States to the North and Spanish America to the South.

An atmosphere of universality pervades Florida and one observes a yearning to comprehend and appreciate the men of other nations. A knowledge of the literature of distant peoples is like a window through which one perceives the depth of human feeling.

In discussing the subject assigned to me it would be easy to select a group of well-known writers, quote a few of their poems or pages of prose and thus fulfill my pledge toward this cultured assemblage. Perhaps such an expedient would be of greater interest to you, but I feel indebted to the Hispanic American Institute of this University and believe that I should express some of my personal conceptions. The field of quotations and translations has been traversed all too often. I should prefer to present a literary panorama of Spanish America and attempt to classify

in broad outline the characteristics of Hispanic American letters.

To cite names and list authors is a dangerous venture. One is thereby tempted to speak of one's favorites or to praise one's friends and compatriots. Such tactics may well result in omitting those who merit attention.

And in this attempt at generalization, an even greater sin may be committed—that of uttering commonplace or vulgar platitudes of value to no one. The mind of man does not react to nebulous concepts, nor in his pursuit of knowledge is he satisfied with generalities. Man needs concrete facts to form and define his ideas and firm ground upon which to stand. Instead of giving you the names of a hundred or a thousand authors, I am going to devote my remarks to Spain and to the eighteen Spanish-speaking republics of the Western Hemisphere.

Spanish America is a continent of writers; men of letters have given it personality and dignified it. Its position, character, and importance parallel the quality of its poets, novelists, playwrights, and philosophers.

We inherit from Spain a propensity to evaluate life through literature. The Golden Age of Spain was one of the wonders of history. When the power of Spain became decadent, when the dream of empire was broken and what had been won in Italy, Flanders, and Portugal was lost,

*Address delivered March 20, 1946. Translated by D. G. Davis.*

and when later the colonies of America were emancipated from the mother country, the monarchs, nobles, statesmen, and the intellectual class of Spain remained true to their glorious literary heritage, a symbol of the unity of a great culture. More than by the deeds of its military men and conquistadors, Spain maintained its prestige by the tradition of its theater, novels, and poetry. It was a dignified method of preserving its grandeur, although a somewhat romantic and artificial gesture. The literary decline was not long in coming. The 18th century and the greater part of the 19th were a time of political and literary decadence, with the exception of the notable period called "The Enlightenment," in the reign of Charles III.

The dividing line between literary work of high merit and trivial or artificial production is at times wavering and evasive; and so it is that Spain came to the end of the 19th century in an atmosphere of confused values.

Even before Cuba and the Philippines were given up, Spain had lost its position as a leader in the world of letters. The corruption of royalty, the ignorance of the privileged classes, the shortsightedness of the ruling element, forgetfulness of the country's identity, brought on the disaster of 1898. A few great Spanish writers who saw clearly and struggled to correct these faults so that Spain might reestablish its prestige upon the authentic virtues of its people were as a voice crying in the wilderness.

When trying to explain the misfortunes of Spain in the war of Cuba and the Philippines, a writer of Spanish blood crystallized his opinion in these words: "What happened is that a country of rhetoric and poetry, Spain, was defeated by a country of physics and chemistry, the United States." The United States followed the

upward course of a country of physics and chemistry; Spain underwent a transformation and endeavored to change its way and correct the errors born of viewing life wholly from the standpoint of rhetoric and poetry. Rhetoric and poetry have a derogatory connotation when used in reference to declamatory, artificial, and tawdry manifestations.

The Spanish intellectuals of 1898 were men of stature, clear perception, and a reforming and creative spirit; they, better than anyone, recognized the origin of Spain's decadence and denounced the sham and artifice in the literary atmosphere of their country. That impulse towards regeneration, truth, and rapprochement with the common people and their problems gave depth to the literary, scientific, and philosophical output and obtained for the authors a prominent position in the history of world thought.

Some say that this Spanish generation was too much intellectualized and lacked men of action to approach the masses and get to the roots of the ills besetting Spain. The phenomenon was complex. Philosophers, novelists, playwrights, men of science, lyric poets, were predominant figures; but there was no lack of men of letters who published challenging works and directed inspiring messages to the workers in country and city.

In the political field, there was a strong movement toward the "reconstitution" of Spain, that is to say, to a return to provincial autonomy and the recognition of municipal rights, rights which had been lost since the coming of the Hapsburgs in the 16th century. This idea of a return to a confederation of Iberian peoples had its political, literary, and philosophical repercussions and was discussed in Spain for more than 30 years. When the republic of 1931 took form most survivors of the generation of 1898 strongly supported

republican ideas and took an active part in the political struggle.

*The generation of 1898 and the Hispanic American literary movement*

The Spanish generation of 1898 had a great influence upon the Hispanic American literary world of the 20th century. It was the origin of the modernist movement, a term somewhat inept and lacking in esthetic appeal, like so many other literary designations that have wide acceptance without being well understood.

The importance of the 1898 movement lies in its impulse towards artistic advance and in its desire to approach living realities. That endeavor was of a multi-lateral character. It did not flow in any one direction but in many. The Spanish intelligentsia opened windows to the breezes from far and wide. Some of its more renowned representatives traveled and studied in France, England, and Germany and, moreover, discovered Spanish America, where a movement that was to exert a profound influence on the Spanish literary world was taking shape.

During the last of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th, the focal point of Spanish lyrical poetry and good prose was in America. The reverberations of the great French schools of poetry, the Parnassian and the Symbolist, reached Spain in a roundabout way; these movements took root and bore fruit in Hispanic America earlier than in the Peninsula.

It appears that the American poets, Indians, creoles, and mestizos, possessed a sensibility more in harmony with the work of the great French poets and that their ears were attuned to the subtle messages that came across the Atlantic.

That glorious group of modernist American poets, composed of eight or ten figures of continental stature, was very much under the French influence. Their French-

ness affected the famous Spanish poets like an inundating backwash. The delicacy, fine shadings, and intimate quality of the French poets struck a responsive chord in the lively intelligence and sensitive temperament of the American mestizo, Indian, and creole. Some termed this poetry decadent because it was so precious and refined. There had been other great decadent schools in France, the Rococo, a decadent form of the Baroque, and the literature of *la vie bohème*, that was a decadent romanticism.

The modernist and decadent poets of Hispanic America were too literary. They lived in artificial paradises, in enchanted castles, in enclosed gardens; they formed a subjective and theorizing school that nevertheless acquired high position by the magic of poetry written only for its own sake. Some of these famous poets were unadaptable, others rebellious. There were not lacking among them those who were devotees of Nirvana, of Bohemian life, or of wandering; some of them turned into satellites or protégés of dictators or leaders.

From these great poets, Hispanic America as well as Spain learned an important lesson; they exalted Americanism despite their exotic quality and they renovated the literary language and theories of esthetics. They are regarded as the illustrious captains of modernism in Spanish literature.

*The generation of 1920*

The foregoing outline takes in the years preceding the First World War.

The movement that followed the war is classified as revolutionary, not only in literature but in all the social and political activities of Spanish America.

The Mexican revolution that began in 1910 is intertwined with the events of 1914. The Russian revolution of

1917, the termination of the war, and the Peace of Versailles had profound effects on the literary production of Spanish America.

The exceptional postwar generation, especially rich in poets, novelists, and historians, may be called the generation of 1920. Painters, sculptors, musicians and architects, essayists and philosophers also belonged to it. The members of these groups exercised a fundamental influence in all fields; they discovered new men and set new courses.

The last quarter of a century brought a radical transformation in the character of Spanish American literature which can be considered a forerunner of present-day restlessness. It was a revolutionary and realistic movement, upholding a new and pure quality that was derived from its loyalty to the common man and to the soil of America, but did not exclude great world currents.

The poet, novelist, or playwright of this last generation has discovered a new world; the real world of his community, his village, his country, filled with flesh-and-blood men, women, and children; a real world of struggle for daily bread, of authentic scenes, and of spiritual preoccupations. These factors reflect a literary tendency or a philosophical questioning. They are not solely literary or philosophical, but rather a total mobilization of spiritual forces and material resources leading to new orientations and to improved standards of work and of living in general. From one end of Hispanic America to the other one is aware on the part of writers of a desire to know their native land and to portray in dignity the men living there.

American Indian life has become the touchstone for the historical and literary production of Hispanic America. Interest in the Indian takes in the land and

landscape, the customs and manners of his people, social problems, and above all the Indian himself as a human being and his possibilities of advancement.

This has been much like a return to the mood of the 16th century, when the conquistadors and the priests and friars who accompanied them endeavored to pierce the enigma presented by the Indian, his surroundings, arts, sciences, industries, and traditions.

The early chroniclers and evangelists of the Indies were American in spirit; in the following centuries of the colonial period and even in the first century of independence, the Indian became a tool of labor and an object of exploitation. It is only in recent decades that the American Indian has again attracted the interest of Hispanic American essayists, historians, and archaeologists.

The Indian element has made important contributions to the artistic movement in America. It has given its share to musical folklore and has suggested themes of deep-rooted American character to the poet, novelist, and playwright.

This generous movement is the beginning of a new epoch, not only artistic and literary but also profoundly humanitarian. The endeavor now is to know the Indian as he is, not merely his external appearance; to help him advance in order that he may live a full life. When one speaks of new developments in Spanish American literature, an outstanding place must be given to the varied production that has to do with the Indian.

In countries of large native population, such as Mexico, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Paraguay, awareness of the Indian is rapidly growing. Parallel with linguistic and archaeological studies, there has arisen a new art rooted in the indigenous peoples.

One of the highest and most noble of

contemporary American literary manifestations is found in the novel, short story, and essay having a native background. Many books have been written based on Indian themes. They are not mere picturesque tales and novels with an Indian setting but works of vital depth. Sometimes bitter and scathing, sometimes tender and delicate, they penetrate the spirit of the Indian, take up his problems with a sympathetic approach, and attempt to point out to him a way of betterment. Lyric and dramatic poetry also has dealt with the Indian and people are talking again of the great American poets of the pre-Columbian period. The theater and the motion picture have created excellent productions with Indian themes and atmosphere.

In Colombia and Venezuela and in other countries on the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico that have the most direct contact with the Western World, poetry, the short story, and the novel have been the most flourishing forms of literary expression. This region, the crossroads of many routes, a place where men of different races and cultures have fused, the stamping ground of adventurers, pirates, and prospectors, has been an immense stage whereon is depicted the struggle with the elements and with men against a background of unexplored jungles and raging seas.

The atmosphere of the Caribbean is charged with African influences. The Negroes who came as slaves, the object of inhuman traffic, helped to create the poetry and music of the Caribbean. From folkloric art they passed to individual expression; some of the most authentic Spanish-speaking poets in this region have the blood of Africa in their veins.

The Caribbean brought to the fortresses of Colombia and the breakwaters of Venezuela the passion for daring adven-

ture, the restlessness of the buccaneer, and the fever of the explorer of rivers and tropical fastnesses. Many of these new explorers or adventurers were men from the Mediterranean and western Europe who still in the 20th century sought enchanted cities, treasures of Indian chiefs, and gold nuggets in the rivers; or rubber, spices, feathers of rare birds, exotic flowers and fruits, or wild animals.

Artists, men of science, or simple rebellious or nonconformist wanderers rushed into the unknown with the air of the conquistadors of the 16th century.

Great has been the accomplishment in Colombia and Venezuela. There the best novels of the Spanish literary world have been written in a truly American language.

Never in the history of Spanish literature has there been anything like it. In the novels of Colombian and Venezuelan authors, already considered classics, there is something of the chronicles of the New World discoverers—a primitive grandeur one with the landscape, conflicts and struggles between the contesting passions of civilized man and natural man.

In the plot and technique of these novels there is an indefinable something of the 19th century Russian novel although in their essence, setting, and drama they are profoundly American. The American novel has asserted itself, created a school, and been instrumental in the world-wide conquest achieved by Hispanic American literature.

If we drop down from the Magdalena and the Orinoco to the region of the Plata River we find another literary panorama. It is said that Argentina and Uruguay are essentially European, and this may well be true. No man can escape his environment; here along the Plata, Spanish culture has amalgamated with the French and Italian to form a Latin composite. The mark of European schools is found on

science and philosophy. Lyric poetry and popular ballads as well as the Argentine and Uruguayan novel and epic have a real American coloring.

The pampa, rivers, and mountains have left their impression; the gaucho, herdsman, and settler make their appearance as a new element. These novels, stories, ballads, and songs are truly American; the language has acquired a wealth of expressions and words that as yet have not been accepted by authorities and do not appear in dictionaries.

Dramatic literature, which has a precarious and limited existence in most of Hispanic America, has reached great heights in Uruguay and Argentina. This is partly because of the European influx, but the stimulus of native talent and environment cannot be overlooked. There are many intelligent devotees of the theater in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, as well as excellent actors and expert directors.

It cannot be said that the Argentine and Uruguayan theater is European. It has its own atmosphere and technique; moreover, there abound in it rural scenes filled with ranchers, gauchos, and roving singers.

The Indian theme appears hardly at all in the literary production of the Plata River; the colonists displaced the Indians in that area. One finds, however, a nostalgic note in some of its great writers who have devoted magnificent pages to the Indian, and they themselves have said that Uruguay and Argentina must recognize and appreciate their origins in order to complete their historical individuality.

Poetry, considered the truest and most profound expression of modern Hispanic American literature, has acquired in Chile high prestige and respect. Much would have to be written to do justice to

the growth and achievement of Chilean poetry in recent years. The most prominent and influential poets of the contemporary American scene are Chilean.

In Chile there have been pure poetry and poetry with a civic purpose, didactic and social. Chilean poets are journalists, active politicians, or diplomats, who are imbued with a noble zeal to help their people and to play their part in fostering Americanism and high human ideals.

The beautiful and distinctive Chilean landscape, the blood and spirit of the Spanish Basque, the hard and uncertain life of the past, the latent rebellion of the Araucanian Indians, all have united to build in Chile a bulwark to defend and exalt the spirit of the new America. The feeling for America and the new Pan Americanism has stimulated the literary production of our time.

Simón Bolívar, symbol of continental unity, has been the subject of poems well worthy a place in anthologies. There exists a Bolivarian literature ringing with expressions of inter-American brotherhood.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who advanced the ideal of Bolívar with the proclamation of the Good Neighbor Policy, has received tributes of high literary value from the poets and editorial writers of Hispanic America.

The meeting here tonight, in the Hispanic American Institute of the University of Miami, is a demonstration of the spiritual unity of the American Continent.

Hispanic American literature is one of the great treasures of the Continent. It has played a part in the movement towards solidarity and its influence will be greater and greater as it spreads and becomes better known in the United States.



Courtesy of Council for Inter-American Cooperation, Inc.

ANTONIO SOTOMAYOR: CHOLA WASHING CLOTHES (GOUACHE)

## Sotomayor, Painter of Bolivia

JOSÉ GÓMEZ SICRE

*Art Specialist, Division of Intellectual Cooperation, Pan American Union*

LIKE most true artists, Antonio Sotomayor began to paint at a very early age.

When he was still a young boy, perhaps ten or eleven years old, in his village of Chulumani in remote, untrodden Bolivia, some Indians broke a rock in two while he was standing by. It happened that its interior veining resembled the figure

of a Christian saint. They asked Sotomayor, the town's little painter, to finish the work blindly begun by geological sedimentation. He changed it here and there, extending a line or two, strengthening another, and the stone became a Saint Anthony which, in the Indians' phrase, was "trying to appear." The





Courtesy of Council for Inter-American Cooperation, Inc.

ANTONIO SOTOMAYOR: COCA-LEAF PICKERS (GOUACHE)

retouched stone was later carried to a Catholic priest for his blessing, and in all probability it is today venerated as a sacred image in some part of Bolivia.

Thus began, it may be said, the artistic life of this Bolivian painter, who has just had a notable exhibition of his work at the Pan American Union.

In his pictures there is a clearly perceptible nostalgia for native themes—for the high plateau left behind but not forgotten during the many years that Sotomayor has lived in the United States. But in his homesickness for the people and scenes of the land of his birth, we find that any burden of documentation that might lessen the subjective interest which so greatly enriches his work has

been inexorably discarded. The native theme has been stripped by distance and time of all accessories, of all dross, so that it is left in all its purity, with only its inherent esthetic qualities.

This present descendent of the ancient race of Tihuanaco shows in his work all the introversion characteristic of the Bolivian. In speaking of what he tries to do, he said that his interest is engaged not so much by the pure Indian as by the mestizo, the cholo, who constitutes a wider sector of Bolivian life. His art, then, is cholo rather than Quechua or Aymara. For him the fundamental question in Bolivian art today is to find a definitive expression which will reflect the mingling of the indigenous elements



Courtesy of Council for Inter-American Cooperation, Inc.

ANTONIO SOTOMAYOR: THE STREET (GOUACHE)

with Spanish culture in four centuries of interpenetration and life together.

The Bolivian Indian has unique characteristics induced by his natural surroundings. The true Bolivian, of unalloyed native culture, has a personal reticence that is peculiarly his own, says Sotomayor, and he also shows a characteristic reaction to solitude. Bolivia has a very sparse population. The Indian, therefore, is used from his birth to solitude as a natural and logical consequence of life. This solitude does not weigh on him even though he may dwell on the most inaccessible heights or on the most desolate paramos. For him trees, earth, stones, everything about him, has a life of its own that protects him from despondency in the cold loneliness of the high plateau. The Indian believes that inanimate objects have a hidden life in the midst of which he lives. He talks with whatever is near him—a river, a cactus, or a rock—and in his conversation he shares with them his joys, his fears, his doubts, and attributes magic powers to everything. But there is a slight differentiation between the magic and the sacred. Thus the Bolivian Indian makes the universe "his universe," and invents a theogony in which he officiates as high priest.

To this Indian pantheism there was joined in the 16th century the Spanish spirit, full of frank extraversion, imaginative, proud, skeptical, and passionate. From the mixture came the cholo, who unites in almost equal parts the characteristics of the two races, equally strong and rich in potentialities.

In Sotomayor's present work an indige-

nous element is shown not so much in the subjects themselves as in austere figures, withdrawn into themselves and bathed in a blue that envelops everything, a blue like the very air of his native land. Blue almost rules the palette of Sotomayor, since in Bolivia it is found everywhere, even in the atmosphere which, because of the altitude, makes everything lighter. It is with relish that Sotomayor uses this color that pervades all Bolivia, to define his expressive figures. Because his esthetic approach is based on the mestizo, the cholo, he gives us the Spanish element, too, in majestic form, in the irony with which he tinges the reserve or the cautiousness of the Indian.

All these subtleties are perceptible in the works of Sotomayor on view at the Pan American Union during April. The exhibition also showed his ability as a water-colorist: his skill in combining cold, earthy tones with brilliant blues; his adroitness in permitting the blank paper to appear at times as an active part of the color scheme; and a deft admixture of gracefulness and self-restraint.

In this exhibit, which will be circulated to a number of United States museums under the auspices of the Council for Inter-American Cooperation of New York, Sotomayor includes a very interesting series of drawings notable for their purity of line—perhaps sometimes a trifle tense—in which he shows his profound knowledge as a draftsman. Besides his serious works, the exhibit includes also a number of caricatures of well-known persons, in which Sotomayor displays exceptional ability as a humorist.



Photograph by Raymond E. Crist

#### VILLAVICENCIO

Villavicencio is a gateway to the vast plains of eastern Colombia.

## A Trip to the Llanos of Colombia

HAZEL S. GRANT

IT WAS almost dusk when we first saw the llanos. The car suddenly rounded a turn in the narrow, unpaved mountain road, and there, stretching out below us like a vast, gray ocean, lay the endless plains of Eastern Colombia—rolling grasslands, with a network of jungle-bordered streams and rivers.<sup>1</sup> Still largely uninhabited, possibly rich in mineral and agricultural resources, they have until recently been largely ignored by the outside world.

<sup>1</sup> See *The Dry Sea*, by Beatrice Newhall, BULLETIN, May 1937.

We had left Bogotá, Colombia's mountain-top capital, early in the afternoon, and had been traveling east through breathtakingly beautiful scenery over the road which is the only means of communication between the populated uplands and the interior lowlands of the Republic. We had with us food, camping equipment, guns, and an extra gasoline supply, and were setting out to go as far into the heart of this country as a car would take us. We wanted to see the plains and the people who inhabit them and perhaps do a little

hunting, since in parts of that wild country jaguar, deer, and other game abound.

Thus our first view of the llanos (pronounced *lyáh-nōs* in Colombia) was infinitely exciting, not only for its own beauty but also for the mystery and adventure which it might mean for us. At this point the Andes stop abruptly and, rising tall above the plains, stand shoulder to shoulder like so many sentinels. Streams which in the mountains are swift and rocky flatten out into sluggish, muddy, alluvial rivers when they suddenly meet the lowlands.

Nestled in the foothills of the mountains at the terminus of the Bogotá road is the town of Villavicencio. It is a real "cow town," the kind we had in the United States in the Old West. The main industry of the llanos has been for centuries the raising of cattle. Herds are grazed all over the plains, out to the edge of the Orinoco River, which forms part of the boundary between Colombia and Venezuela and marks the end of the grasslands. They are driven in on foot from these remote spots, and often the journey takes many weeks. In the streets of Villavicencio one sees herd after herd of emaciated beasts which have just finished their gruelling march. Nearby haciendas are used exclusively for fattening the cattle after their long trek.

Everywhere about the town are leathery vaqueros, the cowboys of Colombia, riding their elaborately equipped, small but spirited horses. Over their shoulders are draped *ruanas*, square pieces of dark wool with slits in the center to fit over the head. The *ruana* serves as coat, raincoat, and blanket for the chill nights on the trail. A wide leather belt slung low about the hips carries a pistol, and long, ugly spurs are strapped to the ankles. The vaquero always carries a machete. This is a long, two-edged knife and is the most important

possession of anyone who lives outside the large cities of South America. With a little skill it can be used as effectively for paring potatoes as for cutting down fairly large trees. A rural Latin American may lose his burro, his crop, and even his house, but he will never give up his machete. And, though one never hears of machetes in the United States, the best ones are made in Collinsville, Conn.

Villavicencio is, in many respects, a boom town. About 1940 a revolution struck it, one which is still in its early stages: oil was discovered in the vast plains. The war and the accompanying need for new sources of oil encouraged large American and English oil companies to explore and develop at a speed which has left the lazy, hot town gasping for breath.

Now pretty new homes are being erected to house the foreign oil workers; huge trucks carrying heavy machinery rumble through the newly paved streets which a short time ago knew only the beat of horses' hoofs. A beautiful new city hall of ultra-modern design and a swanky office for the national airways stand on the old village square which still boasts a few of the old, two-storied wooden houses with their overhanging balconies and enclosed patios. A new hotel is being built to accommodate the visitors who are overflowing the town's now inadequate resources for transients. Juke boxes blare noisily in crowded sidewalk cafes.

But we had not come to see the changes taking place in the town, changes which are symbols of the encroachment of an industrial world on the isolation of the vast plains, but rather to see the llanos themselves and the largely untouched primitive life still existing there. Villavicencio was a place to spend the night, and we did that at a hotel which demon-



Courtesy of Hazel S. Grant

#### THE HARTS' RANCH HOUSE

A comfortable mixture of the primitive and the modern.

strated clearly what a boon the new one will be.

We were off again early the next morning headed for an outpost ranch some 65 miles to the east on the Meta River. Contrary to our expectations, the road from Villavicencio to Puerto López was quite good. Here we had our first sight of trail herds being driven by the mounted, hard-bitten vaqueros. Later we were to see many more such herds, mostly where there were no roads at all.

Puerto López, at the head of navigation on the Meta River, may some day be a metropolis. Now it is a tiny, ramshackle village in which brick warehouses stand side by side with palm-thatched huts. Heavy trucks and burros are in equal evidence in its muddy streets. Tied up by the shore of the lazy Meta, whose waters are more familiar with the Indian's dug-out canoe, was a Mississippi-type stern-wheel boat. The Colombian Government

brought it over the mountains in pieces by truck and had it assembled in Puerto López. It is to be used to transport cattle from far downstream, saving months of time and many, many pounds of beef in getting the cattle to market.

We found Carlos Marchand at a clean, new, beautifully equipped café which he has recently opened in Puerto López. Marchand, a Swiss, is one of the pioneers in the llanos. Years ago he started in the alligator-skin business and now has a whole fleet of small boats which carry hunters into remote streams and swamps to bring back the precious skins. But alligator hunting is a seasonal business, and Marchand has branched out into others, the café being the newest.

He was rather dubious about our getting safely out to the hacienda toward which we were headed. It was still the rainy season and the road was in very bad condition. He turned to a group of men who were

sitting at another table in the café and asked one of them if he would like to accompany us. He agreed immediately. We learned that he was Major Humberto Ruán, the Superintendent of Navigation on the Meta River and a former Colombian Army officer.

Leaving Puerto López we followed the Meta River over the worst road I ever hope to travel. Because of the deep, soggy mud, the driver had to go at a fairly good rate of speed to avoid being mired in the ooze. The holes were many and deep, and none of us escaped without a badly bruised head. Fortunately we were traveling in a station wagon. A passenger car with a low chassis could not have made the trip.

After following the river for about two and a half very rough miles, we had to take a ferry to the other side. The ferry is a large wooden platform, floated on

pontoons and operated by a gasoline motor. The Meta is quite wide at this point and has a very swift current. The banks are lined with tall palms and low shrubbery. Except for the house of the barge operator there is no sign of human habitation as far as one can look.

Reddy Hart's ranchhouse is located about two or three miles to the south of the Meta, on a high plateau over which a fresh breeze always blows. We arrived there about 11 o'clock in the morning and were greeted warmly by Reddy, his young Nicaraguan wife, their three-year-old son, and the servants. Visitors are rather rare in this isolated spot, and the traditional hospitality of the frontier country soon brought forth cold beer and other refreshments from the gasoline refrigerator.

Reddy Hart is the kind of person about whom one is inspired to write a book. He is a Belgian by birth, about 45 years of

A HAWK IS FAIR GAME



Courtesy of Hazel S. Grant



age, and everything that a *llanero* should be. He is a dead shot with a pistol, a lariat handler of great skill, a good horseman and a farmer. He wears a large Texas sombrero and high-heeled boots. A wide leather belt holds his pistol and cartridges. He lived in Texas for about 15 years and there he learned everything to be known about cattle and ranching. For the last 3 years he and his wife have operated this ranch. The land in the llanos is Colombian government property, and one gains title to it by homesteading. Hart and his partners now own 17,000 acres.

The hacienda house is, appropriately, a comfortable mixture of the primitive and the modern. It really consists of one huge room, cut up by half-walls, screens and mosquito nets into the various quarters which the family needs. The furniture is comfortable, simple, and sparse. Every-



Courtesy of Hazel S. Grant

TERMITE HILLS ARE AS MUCH AS SIX FEET HIGH

where about the house were saddles, guns, cowhide ropes, and all the miscellany of ranch life. There is no running water or electricity, but the prized refrigerator makes life bearable in that hot country where, without refrigeration, all foods spoil quickly. The house, even with its modern construction, has a layer of palm thatching laid over composition tiles to form a roof which is a wonderful protection against both the broiling sun and the heavy rains of the tropics.

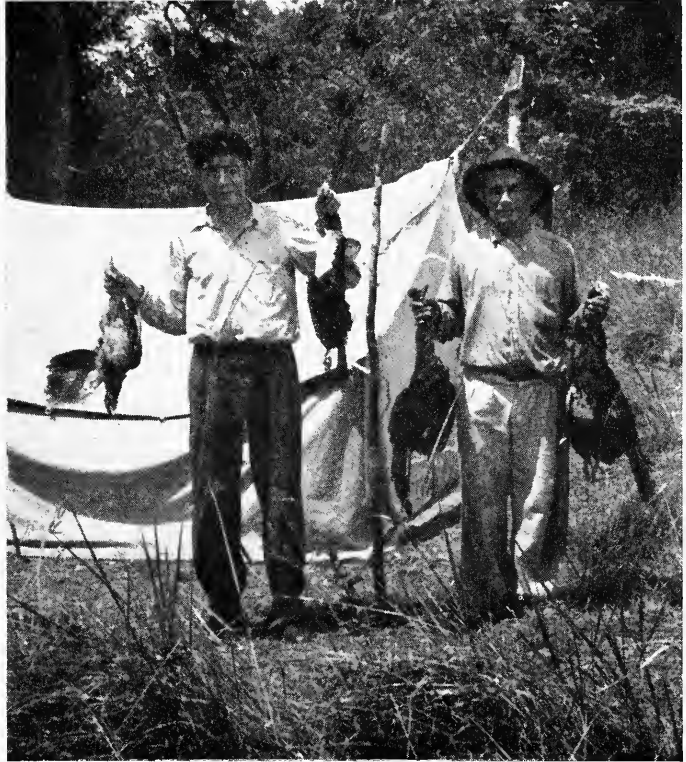
Driving over the bad roads we had come to the conclusion that what the llanos needed most was good highways, but Hart convinced us that the problem of the development of these plains is a much more complex one. It is one of fundamentals, of soil and crops. The tall, wiry, native grass is not good for the cattle. It hurts their mouths and they do not like to eat it. Consequently for centuries the *llaneros* have burned off the grass during the dry season so that the cattle may eat the tender new shoots as they come up. Thus the number of cattle which each acre of land will support is small. On his 17,000 acres, Hart has only 1,300 head of cattle. A grave corollary of the burning of the land has been the tremendous erosion caused to the denuded soil by the heavy rains and the consequent loss of the fertile top soil. Hart feels that the only solution is to plow up the old grass and plant new forage crops along with a plentiful dose of fertilizer. But the mere thought of plowing up 17,000 acres is rather overwhelming. And the Harts' ranch is only one small part of the almost limitless grasslands of the llanos.

The one thing, above all others, which has made modern ranching in the llanos possible is the airplane. The flat plains provide all the landing fields that any number of ranchers could use. Hart has one near his house, and a sheet placed at



## GOOD HUNTING

Wild turkeys and other birds  
were shot near camp.



Courtesy of Hazel S. Grant

one end of it in a certain position is a signal for the daily plane which passes over to come in and land. Thus, in an emergency, any member of the family could get to Bogotá within a few hours. Some of the light, valuable machinery was flown in, and occasionally a friendly pilot drops by parachute a box of precious canned foods and fresh vegetables from the capital.

We spent a lazy Sunday afternoon and evening with the Harts. Major Ruán, among his various talents, has a delightful voice, and he entertained us by singing some of the songs of the llaneros to the accompaniment of a guitar. These haunting melodies, which run through one's mind long afterward, are full of the loneliness and longing of an isolated people. We saw the vaqueros roping cattle, and shot some pigeons and parrots in the

groves of trees which surround the house.

Early the next morning we started off again to push farther east. After crossing two rivers, the Yucal and the Manacacías, we made camp at a tiny settlement. A guide we had come to seek went on with us the next day. It would take many pages to tell all our adventures on the llanos.

The bird, animal and insect life was fascinating. Without much effort we shot all the wild turkey we could eat, and even a toucan, a brightly colored bird with a huge beak, which was surprisingly good eating. There were parrots and parakeets of all descriptions and white herons and egrets in the swampy places. Though we did not see them near our camp, out on the trail we passed many armadillos which scarcely bothered to duck into their shells or even to notice the car as it passed.

We saw holes in the river banks made by the capybaras, the large muskrat-like animals which are found in that region, but the wary creatures kept out of sight. In one exciting afternoon of hunting, the men bagged a deer and a jaguar within walking distance of our camp.

What interested us most were the ants and termites. Out in the plains we saw thousands of tall, conical termite hills, many as much as six feet high. One kind of ant makes nests like huge balls, high in the forks of trees. Another makes a modernistic, terraced home, each level of which is a little smaller than the other; the whole thing is surrounded by a kind of spiral ramp so that the insects can go from one level to another with ease. In the thick jungle along the river we saw the famous umbrella ants carrying pieces of leaves bigger than themselves. They traveled along beautifully level highways with their precious loads, and soldiers scurried back and forth to protect them.

One night we chose a campsite near a beautiful, clear stream which, like all streams in this country, was heavily wooded along its banks. This was a branch of the Muco River, which flows south into the Vichada, an affluent of the Orinoco. We had left the Meta River and its tributaries far to the north.

The men got out their machetes and cut down a circle of grass about thirty feet in diameter to serve as our camp ground. Making camp in a place where every inch has to be cut out is backbreaking work. While the men set up the tent the commissary department got to work on a chicken, and by early afternoon we had a good lunch.

We were hot, tired, and very dirty. The pretty, clear, swift stream was a great temptation, but Ramón, mentioning the fearful word *caribe*, said we must not bathe there. All the streams and rivers in those

grasslands are infested with the small, innocent-looking, man-eating fish of this name. They are extremely sensitive to the presence of blood in the water and, though they will not attack a living animal which is not bleeding, a little scratch or even a mosquito bite is often enough to excite their hunger. Having heard stories of men and animals who had fallen into the water to become the prey of a thousand of those little creatures and to be reduced to skeletons in a very few minutes, we had no wish to experiment. However, we were a little piqued when, later in the afternoon, Ramón and our driver emerged from the ravine looking fresh and scrubbed. At this point our discomfort was such that we were about to talk ourselves into taking a swim. But when we threw chicken entrails into the water, we found that the caribes were really there. The clear stream, in which not a living thing could be seen, suddenly became a boiling mass of tiny fish, each not more than six inches long. In less than a minute every vestige of the scraps which we had thrown into the water was gone. That was enough for us.

At night the sky was clear and beautiful, every star standing out like a jewel. It was then that we felt most the remoteness and isolation of our camp. We dared not stir away from our little clearing, since the tall grass made walking laborious even in the daytime and dangerous at night. Fifty feet away from the camp we could not even see it in the blackness and shadows of the tall grass. We were less than 250 miles from Bogotá, the cosmopolitan capital of a sophisticated country, and it seems strange that a spot so close to its industrial and cultural heart could be so isolated that the very thought of being there alone would send the shivers up and down one's spine. We had not seen a

sign of human life since leaving Manacacías, some 40 miles back over the grassy trail. We enjoyed to the full the quiet and the loneliness, and the sense that we were seeing virgin country.

With our deer and jaguar skins, we started back proudly, hoping to reach Villavicencio in one jump, now that we knew the route.

Arriving at the Harts' ranch about 4 in the afternoon, we intended to pause only long enough to recount our experiences and to thank them again for their help and hospitality. Hart was rather amazed at our insistence on getting to Villavicencio that night. People who live in the Tropics just do not hurry. There is plenty of time for everything and visitors are few. Why not sit down and chat a while? He remarked that our trip of about 200 miles in one day would be something of a record for the llanos.

The sun was setting when we reached the Meta River and the sight which greeted us was profoundly beautiful. The bright red- and yellow-streaked sky,

the reflections in the water, the palm trees, the thatched houses, and the birds calling, all made it seem a perfect paradise.

After passing through Puerto López where a few stalls were still lighted up for the fiestas, we hit the good road and hurried on to Villavicencio.

Back on the mountain road next morning, we were stopped for a short time by one of the many landslides which make travel along it dangerous and difficult. A long string of trucks was waiting on the road ahead of us since the slide had occurred sometime during the previous night. But with amazing speed and efficiency the blocked road was cleared and we were soon on our way. The scenery on the return trip was just as beautiful as when we came down, the road just as narrow and hazardous. Climbing all day, ever up, up, we got a feeling of the altitude of Bogotá in a way which one coming in by plane can never obtain. We were not stopped at any of the chains, which bar stretches of road so narrow that up-



Courtesy of Hazel S. Grant

#### A HERD ON THE ROAD

On the five-day climb from the plains to Bogotá, cattle lose on the average 100 pounds a head.

coming traffic is held until the down-going has passed. However, we had to wait many times to let herds of cattle climb the steep banks to get out of our way.

When we finally arrived at the capital, the noisy streets, the crowds of people upon them, the multitude of honking

automobiles, all seemed strange and unpleasant. It was as though we had been gone from these noisy evidences of civilization for much longer than a week, and we were reluctant to renew our acquaintance with them. However, it was pleasant to get back to hot water and soft beds and to dream in comfort of the peace of the llanos.



## Social Service and Legal Assistance in Chile

REBECA IZQUIERDO PHILLIPS

*Director of the Elvira M. de Cruchaga Social Service School*

THE Free Legal Service of the Chilean Bar Association was created in 1932 and reorganized by presidential decree in 1935 under the name of *Servicio de Asistencia Judicial*. Besides benefiting the needy, it affords students of law an opportunity to obtain the practical experience required before they can obtain their degree. The Bar Association maintains an oversight of the work through provincial councils, one in the jurisdiction of each Court of Appeals.

The first office giving free legal service had been in operation hardly a year when it became evident that many cases could be settled without the help of lawyers if social workers were available to help clients. It was then that cooperation was requested from the Elvira M. de Cruchaga School of Social Service in Santiago, and a section was organized in charge of a chief social worker with several assistants.

In the area under the supervision of the General Council of the Bar Association,

comprising Santiago, O'Higgins and Colchagua provinces, there are nine offices for free legal service, staffed by thirty-two lawyers, thirteen social workers, and seven office employees. In Santiago there is a central office, and work is also done at the penitentiary, the men's prison, and the women's house of correction. Furthermore, a section for minors operates as part of the Council for the Protection of Children. The social service section co-operates with the other sections and offices.

It is the social worker who receives all the applications and conducts the first interviews, from which she must get to the bottom of the client's problem no matter how vague and contradictory the statements made. The case can then be referred to the civil or criminal section, or the social worker can retain it in her care if it can be settled without legal action.

In many cases the social worker is able to play a valuable role. She calls the



Courtesy of Rebeca Izquierdo

**SEÑORITA ALEJANDRA BENBOW**  
Head social worker.

parties to the dispute and, after hearing both sides of the question, tries to bring about a settlement. Any agreement reached is recorded and signed, thus serving as a guarantee for the fulfillment of the plan.

The social worker is especially effective in settling family disputes and in meeting situations caused by ignorance of the social security laws, particularly when the worker has no labor contract.

The social worker also cooperates with the lawyers in obtaining the proof necessary for the defense of prisoners, makes contacts with witnesses, helps to obtain bail, and so on. She also gives assistance in the family emergencies created by the imprisonment of the accused, and thus aids in preserving family relationships. The minors in the women's house of cor-

rection are entirely under the supervision of the social worker, who endeavors to rehabilitate them and to help them when they leave the institution. In the Council for the Protection of Children, the social worker has many tasks, such as clearing up questions relating to birth certificates, acceptance of legitimacy, recognition of natural children, guardianship, support, and other similar matters.

The efficiency of the chief social worker, Srta. Alejandra Benbow, has set the standard for the social service section and made it an indispensable factor in the operation of the other sections. She is remarkable for her knowledge of Chilean law and especially of its practical applications, a fact which not only wins her the confidence of all her clients, but also causes lawyers, students, and other social



Courtesy of Rebeca Izquierdo

**SEÑOR ARTURO ALESSANDRI R.**  
Member of the General Council of the Chilean Bar Association.

workers to turn to her with the assurance of obtaining a constructive reply, thanks to her experience and to her mastery of all subjects of a legal-social character.

The results achieved by her office show the benefits of social service and the great need for it. It should be noted that 75 percent of the cases in which the social service section took part in 1944 were settled satisfactorily. The students of the Elvira M. de Cruchaga Social Service School who have worked in this field have

assembled a mass of useful material which has been summarized in their theses.

The part played by the social worker in the Free Legal Service was recognized as early as 1934. It was given public recognition again last October in the paper presented by Señor Florencio Gutiérrez, chief of the Free Legal Service, before the Inter-American Bar Association. He stressed especially the usefulness of social service as an essential complement to the work of the lawyers themselves.



THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION AT THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

At a meeting of this committee at Washington in April Dr. Hernando de Lavalle, President of the Lima Bar Association, was elected President of the Inter-American Bar Association. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Lima in April 1947.

# Guatemalan Pines

PAUL C. STANDLEY

*Chicago Natural History Museum*

THERE are in Guatemala five species and one variety of pine, which need not be discussed here in detail. Two of them are easily recognized for one reason or another; the other three are much alike, have similar distribution, and essentially the same properties.

*Pinus Ayacahuite*, a white pine, is confined to the highest mountains, where it often is associated with *Abies* and *Cupressus*, or with broad-leaf trees. It is notable for its great size, the trunks often being very tall, straight, and clean, with a great diameter, and also for its beautiful, large, long and narrow cones that carpet the ground beneath the trees. At its best it forms dense forests on whose floor only a few herbaceous plants and some low shrubs grow. On the slopes of Volcán de Zunil near Fuentes Georginas, the White Pine grows in a dense association of mixed broad-leaf trees where it seems strangely out of place. The trees are conspicuous there because the graceful, long and slender leaves glisten prominently in sunshine. On government lands in the mountains above Totonicapán there are fine stands of this tree, growing with *Abies*. Many of the trees have trunks a meter or more in diameter. Almost the only plants found beneath them are mosses, a few ferns, and the low half-shrubby plants of *Acaena*. The last is found throughout the sheep-raising areas of the Guatemalan highlands, its bur-like fruits so infesting the

wool of sheep that the animal becomes one great bur. Reproduction of the trees was noted as abundant here. Similar conditions exist in the high dreary mountains on the road between San Francisco El Alto and Momostenango. In the meadows between these latter forests the writer once was amazed to glance up and see a small herd of llamas grazing peacefully. He could scarcely believe his eyes until he recalled that some time previously llamas had been presented by the Peruvian government to Guatemala, and part of them had been sent to a remote part of the country for naturalization.

Equally easy to recognize is the Caribbean Pine, *Pinus caribaea* Morelet, because it is found only at low elevations, sometimes extending to cliffs at the edge of the sea, and never ascending far above sea level. This is the common pine of southern Florida, and the parts of Guatemala inhabited or dominated by it often have much the scenic appearance of the Florida Everglades, and a very similar flora.

The three other Guatemalan pines, *P. Montezumae* Lamb., *P. oocarpa* Schiede, and *P. pseudostrobus* Lindl., are much alike in general appearance and difficult to distinguish in the field and for that matter in the herbarium. All have similar properties and uses and much the same distribution.

These pines are the most important local source of lumber. At present most of it is sawed in small mills, but very often boards are sawed by hand from the logs. The log is placed across a pit and two men, one on top of the log, the other below in the pit, manipulate a rip saw until the desired boards are obtained. Watching this slow and painfully laborious process one is impressed by the scant value of labor in these tropical countries and also by the skill of

*From an article, "Notes on Some Guatemalan Trees," in Tropical Woods, publication of the Yale University School of Forestry, Number 84, December 1, 1945.*





Courtesy of Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. D. A.

#### GUATEMALAN PINES

Pine branches have long been a ceremonial offering of the Indians at roadside crosses and shrines, probably since before the discovery of America.

the workers, who are able thus to make boards of uniform thickness.

Besides lumber, the pines furnish other local products, including turpentine and rosin, and a great deal of firewood, this of course not of desirable quality but sometimes the only fuel available. Strangely enough, fuel is often a serious problem in Guatemala. In the great wheat-growing valley about Sija, above Quezaltenango, there are no trees and shrubs and the only available fuel is grass roots. This scarcity has resulted in a conspicuous modification of ordinary food habits. The daily bread consists not of the usual *tortillas*, toasted over the fire, but of *tamalitos*, little tamales wrapped in corn husks and boiled. These *tamalitos* are always soggy and of repulsive appearance when, as often happens, they

are made from black maize. They are a sorry food indeed, but their preparation is much more economical of fuel than is that of *tortillas*.

A common article of trade in all markets and neighborhood shops consists of *ocotes*, small billets of fat or resinous pine for kindling charcoal fires. It is amusing to watch a woman or child fingering the piles of *ocotes* until the choicest one is found, and as much attention is given to its selection as would be to a garment at a bargain sale. Pine torches are much used for illumination, both out of doors and in houses. In modern times tallow candles and electric torches are plentiful enough even in remote regions, but even the former are sometimes too expensive for the Indians.

Pine branches have long been a ceremonial offering by the Quecchí and other Indians at roadside crosses and shrines, and Dr. Karl Sapper believes they were offered to the gods of preconquest times. Several other Guatemalan trees are known to have had similar religious significance. Sapper states that in some parts of Alta Verapaz where pines are not native the Quecchí people plant them to have the branches conveniently at hand. The use of pine branches and leaves on all festive occasions is general in Guatemala, and probably of very ancient origin. It is customary to cover the floors and sometimes the streets with fresh green pine needles on holidays or for parties and any special occasion. The quantity of branches and leaves thus used in the cities is considerable and has had a marked effect on the forests. Throughout Guatemala one marvels at the curious form of the pine trees and would be completely mystified unless the cause were discovered. Men climb the trees and cut all the main branches, leaving only a sort of tassel at the top. There are vast numbers of such fantastic trees everywhere in the central



departments. Pine needles also are used in place of the more usual straw to strengthen adobe bricks.

While in most parts of Guatemala oaks are associated with pines, in some regions of Alta Verapaz, as about Cobán, there are few oaks and their place is taken there by *Liquidambar*, resulting in a much handsomer association of trees. The Pine here is *Pinus oocarpa*. Its very pale, yellowish, often handsome wood is much used in Cobán for all kinds of house construction and for furniture. It is the chief lumber used at Cobán. The seedlings in that wet

region often make a prodigious growth, attaining a height of two meters before a node is formed. On Finca Samac not far outside Cobán, Gustav Heinrich, one of the oldest and most enterprising foreign residents of the region, made large plantings of pines on denuded limestone hills about thirty-five years ago. The trees have grown rapidly and thriftily, and from a short distance would be taken to constitute a natural forest. Many of the trees are now ready for cutting. Oaks planted at the same time are about half as tall.



Courtesy of Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. D. A.

#### PINES IN THE GUATEMALAN HIGHLANDS

"It is customary to cover the floors and sometimes the streets with fresh green pine needles on . . . any special occasion."

# Postwar Measures in the American Republics—V

Compiled by  
DOROTHY M. TERCERO

*Ration, import, export, price, rent,  
and other controls*

RESTRICTIONS on the consumption of petroleum products, in effect in varying degrees in Uruguay since September 15, 1941, were removed by presidential decree on December 20, 1945. (*Diario Oficial*, December 26, 1945.)

As of January 1, 1946, Brazil's Office of Economic Coordination was abolished and its various duties assigned to other government agencies. (*Diário Oficial*, December 28, 1945.) The office was set up by Decree-Law No. 4750 of September 28, 1942, for the broad purpose of coordinating the material and human resources of the nation for prosecution of the war. The scope of its duties during the war years was prodigious, for it dealt with all problems concerning imports and exports, price fixing, distribution, and supply.

On February 18, 1946, Guatemala abolished its Price and Supply Coordination Office and created in its place a new Office of Economic Stabilization, subsidiary to the Ministry of Economy. (*Diario de Centro América*, February 21, 1946.) The new office is charged with carrying into effect the Economic Emergency Law (Legislative Decree No. 90 of April 21, 1945), and with superintending the fulfillment of all laws and regulations issued for the purpose of stabilizing the cost of living and maintaining the country's economic equilibrium.

After giving serious study to the problem of speculation, hoarding, and other illegal practices that were aggravating already existing abnormal conditions resulting from a scarcity of certain commodities, the Office of Price Regulation and Supply in Cuba took steps to correct the situation by the creation of a Foodstuffs Coordinating Commission, to function under the OPRS. The commission has 12 members, 3 of them from the Ministry of Commerce and the OPRS, 8 from various retail and food supply associations and workers' unions, and 1 from the National Press Association. Its main function will be to plan a system of equitable distribution of scarce articles of prime necessity. (*Gaceta Oficial*, March 5, 1946.)

On August 18, 1945, close on the heels of the Japanese surrender, Colombia abolished its National Price Control Office and authorized the Department of Commerce and Industries to adopt any measures necessary to control articles of prime necessity. With the removal of the Price Control Office, however, the situation quickly got out of hand, and speculation and high prices became so serious a problem that the Government again had to take drastic and definite steps to check the rising cost of living. Three decrees to that effect were issued on March 17, 1946. One of them established control over articles of prime necessity (listed in the decree as milk, meat, rice, sugar, barley, corn, beans and other legumes, flour and

starch, bread, chocolate, lard, pharmaceutical products, coal and charcoal, textiles of various kinds, and construction materials). In each departmental capital a Control Board was set up to fix wholesale and retail prices, work out plans for adequate and equitable supply and distribution, prevent hoarding and speculation, and generally superintend compliance with the provisions of the decree.

The second decree established control over urban real property rents by fixing annual maximum rents based on a sliding scale of percentages of the properties' assessed valuation. The June 30, 1945, assessed property valuation, plus 20 percent, will be used as the basis for fixing the rents. The decree makes further allowances for increasing the maximum thus figured when the property is rented furnished, or when it is used for commercial, industrial, or professional purposes. Supervision and administration of this measure are vested in the above-mentioned departmental control boards.

The third Colombian decree created an Office for the Regulation of Markets and Prices, annexed to the Ministry of National Economy and charged with advising the departmental control boards on ways and means to equalize the distribution of articles of prime necessity; superintending and controlling production, prices, and other food market matters; exercising the same functions with regard to urban rents; and studying and collaborating with the Department of Commerce and Industries in regulating imports and exports. (*El Tiempo*, Bogotá, March 18, 1946.)

A number of other countries also enacted various kinds of price legislation. On September 14, 1945, Argentina put into effect a new broad decree (No. 21748/45) fixing wholesale and retail prices for foodstuffs, household articles, clothing, and textiles, and repealing previous legislation to that

effect. Various industrial and commercial organizations worked with the National Postwar Council to establish the new prices on a level more in consonance with the workingman's wage. The prices fixed for foodstuffs and certain washing and cleaning supplies expired on November 30, 1945, and were again fixed by a new decree, No. 32709/45 dated December 17, 1945, which also prescribed various general regulations covering manufacturing, supply, and distribution. (*Boletín Oficial*, September 20, 1945, and January 9, 1946.)

By means of Decree No. 10701 of October 29, 1945 (*Gaceta Oficial*, October 31, 1945), Paraguay followed a custom of other years in fixing basic prices for principal agricultural products of the new crop year (1945-46). The crops covered by the decree were cotton, rice, beans, soy beans, coffee, corn, peanuts, and alfalfa. Venezuela fixed prices on January 21, 1946, for specified nationally manufactured textiles (*Gaceta Oficial*, January 21, 1946). On November 30, 1945, Brazil's Coordinator of Economic Mobilization (abolished as of January 1, 1946, as stated above), cut prices 10 percent on all domestic cotton textiles. (*Diário Oficial*, December 1, 1945).

Uruguay fixed producer and elevator prices for wheat of the 1945-46 crop by Decree No. 1535/945 of December 27, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, January 7, 1946). The decree further gave the Bank of the Republic authority to regulate the domestic wheat market and, to achieve that purpose, the Bank will acquire the entire 1945-46 wheat crop at the prices fixed by the decree and will then sell it to millers at fixed prices, and the millers in turn will sell it to the public at fixed prices.

Various countries also adopted measures concerning imports and exports. In Haiti export quotas for certain foodstuffs were

fixed for the first nine months of 1946 by Executive Resolution No. 630 (*Le Moniteur*, December 17, 1945). The commodities covered by the resolution were corn, rice, peas, peanuts, goats, and sheep. The hoarding of these items for speculative purposes was prohibited and penalties prescribed for infringements.

A Treasury Department Circular in Mexico (No. 309-1-16, dated February 6, 1946) removed import restrictions on bathroom fixtures. (*Diario Oficial*, February 19, 1946.)

Decree-Law No. 10772 (*Gaceta Oficial*, November 8, 1945) in Paraguay waived customs and import fees and duties on 8,000 metric tons of sugar to be imported by the National Food Administration for domestic consumption. Another Paraguayan measure (Decree-Law No. 10788, *Gaceta Oficial*, November 12, 1945) made livestock (cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and goats) subject to prior export permit. Such permits will be issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, but only if the national supply will not thereby be adversely affected.

On December 10, 1945, Brazil prohibited the exportation of all kinds of rayon or part-rayon products, including thread, textiles, and manufactured goods. The purpose of the measure was to prevent the increase in prices that would inevitably result if an already scanty supply were further depleted by exportation. (*Diário Oficial*, December 11, 1945.)

Brazilian Decree-Law No. 4937 of November 9, 1942, which declared certain kinds of factories to be of special interest to the nation's war effort and established special regulations governing their operation, was repealed and the factories released from all restrictions by Decree-Law No. 8327 of December 10, 1945 (*Diário Oficial*, December 14, 1945).

Rent control, established in Uruguay

by Law No. 10460 of December 16, 1943, was extended to June 30, 1947, by means of a law approved November 10, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, December 24, 1945). Certain new provisions of the law make it impossible, in case a good paying tenant is dispossessed from a property for which the rent is less than 80 pesos a month, to fix a higher rent for the new tenant. The one exception to this is when appreciable improvements are made on the property, in which case the cost of the improvements may be figured in the new rent.

#### *Enemy property and war claims*

An eight-member War Claims Commission was established in Brazil by Decree-Law No. 8553 of January 4, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, January 15, 1946), to receive claims for war damages suffered by Brazilians, present to the Government a general account of war damages, evaluate enemy property seized by Brazil, and act generally in matters concerning the handling of all claims arising from the war.

In Colombia Law No. 39 of December 14, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, January 24, 1946) provides ways and means for the collection of indemnities and reparations for expenses caused to the nation by the war and for damages caused by Germany or German nationals to the properties or persons of Colombian citizens. Seized German properties, funds, and other goods will be used in amounts varying from 5 to 100 percent of their total value for the payment of such reparations. The Stabilization Fund of the Bank of the Republic, which has charge of the seized properties, is to pay the corresponding amount of money in each case to the National Treasury, which in turn will reimburse citizens for their claims after the State has deducted its own reparations. Claims, to be considered and paid, must be made within the next five years by persons resi-

dent in the country and within ten years by persons resident abroad.

In Venezuela Decree No. 176, issued by the Revolutionary Junta on February 6, 1946 (*Gaceta Oficial*, February 6, 1946) nationalized all properties belonging to the German and Japanese states and nationals, and set up a National War Reparations Court to receive and act on claims of the nation and of Venezuelan citizens. Procedures were also outlined in the decree by which German and Japanese nationals may appeal the nationalization of their properties before the Reparations Court. In contrast to the Colombian decree just cited, Venezuelan citizens are given priority in the payment of reparations for damages, direct or indirect, suffered as a consequence of the war. After citizens are taken care of, the nation is to be reimbursed for damages and for the extraordinary expenses it underwent because of Axis aggression and through the fulfillment of its obligations as a member of the international community of nations.

On January 29, 1946, Costa Rica also prescribed measures for expediting the payment of war damage claims, using confiscated enemy properties and funds for the purpose. The claims will be handled by the Alien Property Custodian Board. (Presidential Decree No. 5, *La Gaceta*, January 31, 1946.)

A Peruvian presidential decree, approved November 27, 1945, outlined procedures to be followed in suits against German or Japanese nationals. The Office of Economy and the Attorney General's Office will act in such cases, and the German or Japanese persons or entities concerned are given the right

as defendants to be represented in the legal processes.

#### *Bilateral and multilateral measures*

The United Maritime Executive Board, consisting of representatives of the 18 governments (including, among others, Brazil, Chile, and the United States) which had acceded to the "Agreement on Principles Having Reference to the Coordinated Control of Merchant Shipping" signed August 5, 1944, met in London February 4-11, 1946, and, after thorough consideration, adopted machinery for the discontinuance of United Maritime Authority controls March 2, 1946, and also unanimously recommended to the member governments that they enter into a temporary agreement (expiring October 31, 1946) providing for: (1) The meeting of ocean-transportation requirements of UNRRA and of liberated areas in an orderly and efficient manner; and (2) a temporary consultative council for the purpose of studying any shipping problem arising during the period of transition.

The agreement is intended to preserve on a voluntary basis, and until the greater part of the UNRRA and liberated area shipments have been made, those aspects of the United Maritime Authority which relate to the programming of relief and rehabilitation cargoes and the assignment of shipping to carry those cargoes. It is believed that the new agreement will be of material assistance in assuring the prompt ocean transportation of food, fuel, and other commodities to areas where they are urgently needed for the preservation of human lives. (*Department of State Bulletin*, March 24, 1946.)

# *Pan American Union* NOTES

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

AT A special session held on April 10, 1946, the Governing Board of the Pan American Union considered the following matters:

### *Chairman*

The appointment of Dr. João Carlos Muniz as Special Representative of Brazil on the Governing Board left vacant the position of Chairman, which had been occupied by Dr. Carlos Martins, Ambassador of Brazil to the United States. The Board agreed not to hold an election to fill the remainder of the term in office, but to retain Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, Ambassador of Nicaragua, the Vice Chairman, as Chairman.

### *Inter-American Juridical Committee*

The Board approved a resolution which increased to ten the number of members of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, which meets in Rio de Janeiro, and requested that the Government of Bolivia name the tenth member. The remaining members of the committee have already been or will be appointed by Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Chile, Mexico, Peru, the United States, and Venezuela.

### *Conference of Experts on Copyright*

The Board approved regulations of the Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright which is to meet at the Pan American Union June 1, 1946, and agreed that the object of this assembly is to perfect the inter-American system of protecting intellectual property by means of an addi-

tional protocol to the convention signed in 1910, or by means of a new general convention to replace present instruments.

### *Organic Pact of the Inter-American System*

The Board authorized sending the governments the draft of the Organic Pact of the Inter-American System, requesting the Governments to study it and present their opinions before July 1, 1946, in order that the final plan may be drawn up to be presented to the Ninth International Conference of American States.

### *Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources*

The Board also authorized sending the Governments the preliminary program of the Inter-American Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources, to meet in 1947, and requesting the Governments to offer their suggestions or criticisms not later than July 1, 1946, so that their opinions may be used in formulating the final program.

### *Administration building of the Pan American Union*

The Board also authorized the Director General of the Pan American Union to begin immediately plans for the construction of a building to house the administrative offices of the institution. It will stand on Constitution Avenue, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets, just west of the present building.

# Pan American News

## *Message of the President of Guatemala*

GUATEMALA'S first year of constitutional democracy, a year in which some notable advances were made in the face of political and weather disturbances, was evaluated for the benefit of the national Congress at its opening session in March 1946. President Juan José Arévalo delivered his report on the state of the nation on the first day of that month, traditional date for the opening of the Guatemalan Congress. His first year in office, however, was not rounded out until two weeks later; the tremendous task of framing and adopting a new constitution after the revolution of October 1944 was brought to completion only on March 11, 1945, so that March 15, 1945, was the day on which the revolution's first constitutionally elected president took up his duties.

That constitution and that revolution formed the warp and woof of President Arévalo's report as they have of his administration. He paid tribute to both when he repeated early in his message the annual formula of his predecessors—"public order has been maintained"—but added that for the past year Guatemala's peace has been not the peace of the graveyard but "the difficult, laborious, and constructive peace" of a free people working its hard way toward a better life.

Educational achievements of the year as summarized in the president's message affected both the top and the bottom of

the ladder of learning. The National University, which had just received its autonomy at the hands of the interim revolutionary government, organized and opened during this first year of the Constitution a School of Humanities to complement the work of the purely professional schools. The University was giving special attention to lectures and publications; in this one year alone more lectures were delivered under university auspices than in the 14 years just preceding. The *Revista de Guatemala* was launched with government assistance, to present a quarterly sampling of thought and criticism from notable Guatemalan and foreign writers.

At the other end of the educational scale the year was also a fruitful one. Government and school authorities worked together to organize a thorough and systematic plan for teaching the country's large illiterate population to read, a plan which had successfully passed through its opening phases when President Arévalo made his report. The government also took the first step toward a truly comprehensive national school system by organizing in January 1946 a nation-wide school census. The school-age population of the whole country was classified by age, sex, residence, language, and length of school attendance, and various facts bearing on causes for nonattendance at such schools as already existed were duly recorded.

For the Ministry of Agriculture the President reported a year of reorganiza-

tion and of closer contact with the farmers and farm problems of the nation. A body of general agricultural agents was created to keep in touch with those who are actually growing the crops. Farm clubs and agricultural experiment stations helped spread new ideas. In May 1945 the first regional congress was held in Escuintla; local problems were aired and attacked, and recommendations were formulated which helped the Ministry deal intelligently with farm problems in that southern locality and all over the country. November 1945 saw the completion of preliminary arrangements for an extensive farm and stock-raising colony in the southeastern part of the northern Department of Petén, a colony designed to reclaim for the good of the nation territory once exploited by foreign traders.

Hospital expansion and the opening of a free medical clinic provided some small mitigation of the serious welfare difficulties confronting the administration. Overcrowding, malnutrition, and other health menaces could only be recognized by plans for the future. Undernourishment problems were aggravated by the year's bad weather and the poor harvests that resulted. Distribution was regulated where possible, some basic foods were bought abroad to meet the emergency, and in order to stabilize the country's financial condition a Bank of Guatemala was created. For these things, and for the other expenses inevitable to a regime which has inherited many miseries, more revenues were needed, and a study of tax possibilities was therefore begun.

Any new government, said President Arévalo in closing his report, must expect its first year to be devoted chiefly to contacts and explorations, to surveys of old problems and to plans for dealing with them. For that reason he took special pride in announcing that, side by side with

these undertakings reaching into the future, he could present to the attention of the members of the Congress certain things that were a matter of present achievement. "Civil liberties, . . . functional autonomy . . . and freedom of criticism are not promises or projects but existing realities."—C. C. C.

### *The United Nations and voluntary organizations*

The BULLETIN has received the following communication from J. B. Orrick, Chief, Section for Voluntary Organizations, Department of Public Information of the United Nations:

As you may know, observers from voluntary organizations—that is to say, nongovernmental organizations—have played a very valuable part at recent international conferences from San Francisco to the present. It is the desire of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations to facilitate access of such organizations to the United Nations. With regard to the current meeting of the Security Council, owing to the pressure of time and travel difficulties, most of the organizations represented are from the United States. We very much hope, however, that organizations from many other United Nations will be represented at subsequent meetings.

The Department of Public Information will work in cooperation with Governments so as not to duplicate existing machinery. Member Governments are asked to inform organizations in their countries that representatives will be welcomed as observers at the meetings of the Council and Assembly. Organizations should be asked to name only one representative who can secure accreditation on application in person. Accreditation does not carry with it a ticket for every session. Tickets must be applied for separately and will be rotated among accredited observers applying. It is planned, also, to have one or two background conferences during and after the meetings, at which members of Delegations will be asked to address representatives of organizations and to answer questions.

A global subscription to United Nations Journals and Documents, which will be reprinted



in the Journals, can be arranged for through the Documents Officer of the United Nations. A report of the proceedings will be available on subscription some weeks after the meeting. A microfilm of documents may be purchased after the meeting is over and a bound volume some months later, as at present planned.

### *Peru repeals 1939 constitutional amendments*

Over the protest of the President, the Peruvian Congress passed a law in November 1945 abrogating the constitutional amendments of 1939. The plebiscite of July 1939, on which these amendments were based, was declared unconstitutional.

Among the repealed amendments were: Extension of the presidential term from five to six years; extension of the terms of deputies from five to six years; election of one third of the deputies every two years; restoration of the right of executive veto; authorization to Congress to pass a law enabling the President to promulgate laws on certain subjects while Congress is in recess; provision for putting into effect the budget at the beginning of each year, even though it may not have been approved by Congress; and abolition of proportional representation of the minorities.

The abrogation of these amendments tends to increase the powers of Congress at the expense of the Executive.

### *Argentine wheat and corn production*

Wheat production in Argentina rose slightly in 1945-46 over the level of the 1944-45 season, but was below that of 1943-44. In the latter season 16,830,000 acres were sown to this crop and 6,800,000 tons were produced; in 1944-45, 15,402,000 acres were sown and the yield

amounted to only 4,085,000 tons; in 1945-46, 13,788,000 acres were sown and 4,461,000 tons of wheat were harvested. Exports in 1944-45 amounted to 2,326,000 tons as against 1,955,000 tons in 1943-44. The average price per 100 kilograms rose from 6.76 pesos in 1940-41 to 11.25 pesos in 1944-45; between January and December 1945, it jumped from 9 to 15 pesos.

The area sown in corn decreased from 10,902,000 acres in 1943-44 to 9,926,000 in 1944-45, and production fell during this period from 8,730,000 tons to 2,966,000. Exports, on the other hand, rose from 190,000 tons in 1943-44 to 550,000 tons in 1945-46. The average monthly price advanced from 5.85 pesos per 100 kilograms to 9.86 between January and December of 1945.

### *Colombian steel plant*

Industrial development in Colombia will be greatly facilitated by the supply of domestic steel soon to be made available at Paz de Río in the Department of Boyacá. Manufacturers will be able to expand their production, and there will be benefits to business and agriculture in the increased volume of farm and factory machinery, building materials, and farm and household tools which will ultimately result from the new enterprise.

Through the Institute of Industrial Development the Colombian Government is giving substantial endorsement to the young steel industry by authorizing the Institute to issue bonds in the amount of 10,000,000 pesos<sup>1</sup> to finance the construction and development of the plant. The government will undertake the service of the loan.

Two hundred tons a day is the output estimated for the early production period

<sup>1</sup> The exchange value of the Colombian peso is 57 cents.

during which the plant's personnel and the country's markets are becoming accustomed to the new undertaking. This figure, it is believed, can later be more than doubled without straining the natural resources. Production will include ingots of gray iron, casting molds, steel casting, wrought steel, sheet steel, and tin plate.

The Boyacá location was chosen after a careful survey of mineral supplies and geographical features in various parts of the country, and the choice was approved by the Colombian Society of Engineers. Iron ores are abundant in various mines all within 25 miles of the spot selected, which has a supply of limestone within less than a mile; even the carbon is only about 150 miles away. The location is a central one for distribution of the product throughout the country, and there is a good local source of water power.

### *Foreign trade of Argentina in 1945*

In 1945 Argentine foreign trade reached a value of 3,639,221,372 pesos (peso equals \$0.268 U. S. cy.), an increase of 8 percent over the figure for 1944. As in 1944 the balance of trade was favorable, but due to a more rapid increase in the value of imports than of exports, the balance was smaller by 21,996,024 pesos in 1945.

Imports of chemical and pharmaceutical products, oils and paints, metals, machinery and vehicles, fuels and lubricants, paper and cardboard, rubber, and beverages increased in quantity and value, while those of textiles, woods, foodstuffs, tobacco, and stone, glass, and ceramics decreased. Exports of cereals and linseed, oleaginous seeds and their oils, livestock, wool, forest products, and fresh fruits were greater in 1945 than in 1944. On the other hand, exports of meat, hides, dairy

products, flour, byproducts of stockraising, and minerals decreased.

Brazil held first place among supplying countries (having furnished 30 percent of all imports), and was followed by the United States, Great Britain, Sweden, Switzerland, India, and Chile. The leading customer was Great Britain which purchased 25 percent of the exports; next in line were the United States, Brazil, Chile, Spain, Sweden, and France. When reports classifying imports and exports by countries become available, the BULLETIN will publish them.

### *Venezuela uses excess profits tax for housing and merchant marine*

The last day of 1945, Venezuela passed an excess profits tax law which is now operating to advantage. Using revenues from this tax, the Government will be able to carry out a number of much needed projects. The housing program for workers and the merchant marine are among the first to receive attention. Oil companies, and other businesses with both foreign and domestic income, will be most affected, since the tax is in addition to the current income tax and applies to companies whose annual income exceeds 800,000 bolívares. (One bolívar is worth approximately \$0.30.)

The tax applies only to income earned in 1945, and must be computed on net income, without deducting the income tax payment. The tax schedule is as follows:

- 6% on 800,000 to 1,000,000 bolívares.
- 10% on 1,000,000 to 1,400,000 bolívares.
- 15% on 1,400,000 to 2,000,000 bolívares.
- 20% on all over 2,000,000 bolívares.

A fund of 10,000,000 bolívares has been created for the establishment of a merchant marine, and an additional 10,000,000 has been added to the budget of

the Ministry of Communications for expenditures which may be necessary in carrying out the program. A commission has been appointed to plan the organization of a Shipping Company (*Compañía de Navegación*), and to determine how much money the company must borrow from private capital.

The Government has assigned 50,-000,000 bolívares of this tax money to the working capital of the Labor Bank (*Banco Obrero*). In turn, the Labor Bank is directed to invest 28,000,000 bolívares in the low-cost housing program. It is expected that 4,000 homes will be built in the principal urban centers during 1946.

### *Mexican railway debt formula*

An agreement for adjustment of the National Railways of Mexico dollar and sterling debt was reached in New York, according to a statement issued on March 19, 1946, by Eduardo Suárez, Mexico's Minister of the Treasury and Public Credit, and Thomas W. Lamont, Chairman of the International Committee of Bankers on Mexico. The agreement was made, after extensive negotiations, pursuant to authorization contained in a Mexican law approved on December 31, 1945 (*Diario Oficial*, Mexico, December 31, 1945).

According to the Seventy-Second Annual Report of the Council of the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders, for the year ending December 31, 1945, Mexico's railway debt in U. S. dollars totaled \$233,773,281 as of June 30, 1945. As of the same date the sterling debt was £1,206,185, which, valued at current dollar-sterling exchange rates, is approximately \$4,842,000. These figures give a total railway debt of about \$237,615,281.

Two options are provided for bondholders in the new agreement. One

offers a settlement of one peso (approximately 20 cents) per dollar of the principal amount, with the Mexican Government agreeing to pay interest on such principal, expressed in pesos, from January 1, 1946, at an average rate of about 4.35 percent. The specific rates would vary somewhat, based on seniority of the several bond issues. A cumulative sinking fund of about 1.78 percent annually is estimated as sufficient to retire the bonds under this plan in about 29 years.

Under the other alternative, the bondholders would waive interest from January 1, 1946, but the Mexican Government would use the same amount of money per bond as is provided under the first plan to retire bonds by purchase or redemption at prices that will rise gradually from somewhat above 21 cents to the dollar to a final par figure in about 29 years.

All payments under either plan will be made, at the option of bondholders, in either dollars or pesos, at a fixed rate of exchange equivalent to the present level of 4.85 pesos per dollar.

As was the case with the 1942 agreement on Mexico's direct Government debt (see *BULLETIN*, August 1943, pp. 467-468), overdue interest obligations on the railway debt are to be purchased by the Mexican Government at rates similar to those in the direct debt agreement. These rates are 1 percent of the face amount of interest obligations due after January 1, 1923, to the date of resumption of debt service (January 2, 1946), and 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent on interest obligations due prior to January 2, 1923, depending on whether the obligations fall in the category represented by receipts for interest in arrears, Class A or Class B, issued under the plan and agreement of June 16, 1922.

Bondholders who deposited their bonds under the 1922 agreement must consent

to the application of their distributive share of the funds in the hands of the 1922 Committee for the purposes of the new agreement.

The new agreement is to be made available only to bondholders who have registered their bonds as being of nonenemy ownership under the Mexican decree of August 4, 1942, and subsequent amendments.

The debt plan was to be submitted to bondholders as promptly as possible. Approval by bondholders representing 55 percent of the qualified bonds is necessary for the plan to become operative, although it may be declared operative, with the approval of the Committee, if a lesser percentage agrees to either of the two options provided in the agreement.

### *Colombian budget for 1946*

Colombia's national budget for 1946 calls for appropriations which make a total of 230,253,879.48 pesos,<sup>1</sup> as compared with last year's figure of 171,912,406.11 pesos. Ten of the 11 ministries are assigned increases over last year's budget ranging from a slight advance in the item for the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (828,560 pesos for 1945, 882,740 pesos for 1946) to a substantial rise in the figure for the Ministry of Public Works (26,226,256 pesos for 1945, 48,690,584 pesos for 1946). One Ministry, the Ministry of War, shows a decrease; for 1945 its appropriation was 24,692,104 pesos, while for this year the figure is 23,457,008 pesos.

The appropriations for 1946 are as follows:

	<i>Pesos</i>
Ministry of Public Works . . . . .	48, 690, 584. 48
Ministry of Finance and Public	
Credit (for debt service) . . . . .	46, 381, 863. 54

<sup>1</sup> Exchange value of the Colombian peso is 57 cents.

	<i>Pesos</i>
Ministry of the Interior . . . . .	29, 068, 660. 14
Ministry of War . . . . .	23, 457, 008. 39
Ministry of Finance and Public	
Credit (ordinary expenses) . . . .	21, 186, 839. 32
Ministry of National Education . .	16, 562, 726. 96
Ministry of Labor, Hygiene, and	
Social Welfare . . . . .	16, 169, 126. 07
Ministry of National Economy . .	11, 923, 051. 86
Ministry of Mails and Telegraphs .	9, 839, 798. 44
Ministry of Foreign Affairs . . . .	3, 926, 514. 86
Comptroller's Office . . . . .	2, 164, 965. 42
Ministry of Mines and Petroleum .	882, 740. 00

Colombian revenues, apart from various special taxes dedicated to special purposes, and apart from national rights in oil and mineral production, etc., are based upon taxation, national property, and national services. For 1946 the income from national services, such as mails and telegraphs, railroads, and harbor, light-house, and airport services, is estimated at 10,151,782 pesos, while the income from such national property as salt mines, forests, emerald mines, and pearl fisheries is placed at 4,255,200 pesos.

Tax revenues are expected to show a substantial increase in 1946, especially those from direct taxation. Colombian tax policy still leans more heavily upon indirect taxation than upon direct, but the disparity is no longer a great one—71 million pesos as compared with 60 million. Tax estimates for 1946 call for 71,363,591 pesos to be raised by indirect taxation, including customs duties, stamped paper, and consumption taxes on gasoline, tires, playing cards, matches, and automatic lighters. Direct taxation, including income taxes, capital assets taxes, and inheritance and gift taxes, is expected to produce 60,537,972 pesos. Income taxes are to play a prominent part in this category. In 1945 Colombia's income tax yield was more than 30 percent larger than in 1944, and accordingly the income tax item which in the 1945 budget was set at 18,700,000

pesos is raised by the current budget to 30,500,000 pesos.

### *National Remuneration Institute established in Argentina*

One of the most far-reaching laws issued in Argentina during recent months is Decree No. 33,302 of December 20, 1945, which creates the National Institute of Remuneration. This Institute is to establish and apply minimum living wages and basic wage scales throughout the Republic, and to intervene in the payment of immediate "emergency increases" in salaries and wages and of annual complementary salaries.

The Board of Directors of the Institute, consisting of a chairman and 12 titular directors, will be appointed by the President. Six of the twelve titular directors will represent employers' interests, and six will represent employees; they will be appointed on the proposal of the legally recognized unions or associations most representative of industrial, commercial, and agricultural activities. The chairman of the Board will hold office for the duration of his good conduct, and the other members will have 4-year terms and will be eligible for reappointment.

The minimum living wage to be guaranteed by the Institute to every Argentine worker is defined as "the remuneration for work which in each district will ensure the employee and his family adequate nourishment, hygienic housing, clothing, education for the children, medical attention, transportation or mobility, social security, vacations, and recreation." The minimum living wage for each district will be periodically adjusted to variations in the cost of living.

The basic wage scales which the Institute will set up for each category of work

will be based on the nature of the work, the need to provide the worker with a standard of living appropriate to his technical ability, salaries paid in similar occupations, local customs, and the economic capacity of the industry or activity under consideration. These wage scales will be determined with the assistance of Wage Committees (made up of an equal number of employers and workers) appointed by the Board of Directors for the different industries, activities, and trades in each district. Companies which can prove to the Board that payment of the established basic wage will affect their economic and financial stability may apply for permission to pay lower wages, provided they are not below the minimum living wage, for a period not to exceed 12 months. Variations of 10 percent or more in the cost of living will be met by adjustments in the basic wage scales.

All employers are required by the decree to pay their employees on December 31 of each year a complementary salary consisting of the twelfth part of total salaries or wages paid during the year. In addition, a sum equivalent to 5 percent of the total amount paid out for complementary salaries must be deposited by the employer in the *Banco de la Nación Argentina* to the order of the Institute. (Employers may retain 2 percent of complementary salaries from their employees for this purpose.) Three percent of this sum is to be used by the Institute to promote traveling by workers and their families, and to support vacation colonies and other places of recreation. The remaining 2 percent of the sum will go toward the general support of the Institute. Other means of support for the Institute will be interest on government bonds it owns, the proceeds from fines for violation of the decree, and donations and legacies.

As a temporary measure to cover the period during which minimum wages and basic wage scales are being determined, the decree provides for "emergency increases" in salaries and wages effective December 1, 1945. The rates of these increases are specified for the various income groups. Increases granted by employers between July 1, 1944, and the time of the decree are to be taken into account in determining the amount of the new increases.

### *Grape growing in Uruguay*

The grape-growing and wine industries have shown a remarkable record of development in Uruguay during the past 40 years.

At the end of the last century, in 1898, approximately 8,920 acres of land were planted to grapes in Uruguay. In that year the vines produced 5,894 tons of grapes, and the grapes in turn yielded 885,340 gallons of wine. A decade later these figures were tripled, and in 1930 approximately 12.6 million gallons of wine were produced; by 1934 wine production rose to 14.9 million gallons; and nine years later, in 1943, with some 42,000 acres of vineyards, a record-breaking grape harvest gave a record-breaking wine production of 20.4 million gallons.

The greater part of the vineyards is located in the Departments of Montevideo and Canelones, with the remainder in the Departments of San José, Colonia, Florida, Salto, Maldonado, and others.

Based on the land, viticulture has had the virtue not only of contributing to agricultural progress, but also of accelerating industrial development through the elaboration of its fruit. Many grape growers themselves have at the same time become wine manufacturers. It is estimated that at present about 100,000 persons are employed in the wine industry.

In the last decade the industry's technical progress has been especially noteworthy, and the fine domestic wines and liquors, above all champagne, are much in demand. Grape growers have cooperated with wine manufacturers by cultivating varieties of grapes that will produce only the finest table wines.

The operations of grape growers, wine manufacturers, and wholesale and retail dealers must all be registered according to law, and before being released for consumption, all wines and other liquors manufactured in the country undergo rigid official inspection.

The following figures are of interest:

Year	Wine manu- factured (gallons)	Year	Wine manu- factured (gallons)
1905.....	3,056,350	1937.....	18,645,550
1910.....	4,490,420	1938.....	18,064,730
1915.....	3,009,500	1939.....	15,191,780
1920.....	9,534,870	1940.....	11,379,900
1925.....	9,555,350	1941.....	15,617,440
1930.....	12,659,200	1942.....	18,201,740
1935.....	9,024,680	1943.....	20,419,250
1936.....	14,359,820	1944.....	18,960,520

### *Minimum wage for Haitian day laborers*

Beginning January 15, 1946, the minimum daily wage of workers and day laborers in government service and in all private agricultural, industrial, and commercial enterprises in Haiti was raised by decree-law from 1.50 gourdes to 2 gourdes per day. (The gourde equals \$0.20 U. S. cy.) The same wage also applies to manual workers who do piece work.

The previous minimum of 1.50 gourdes was fixed by law in 1942, and the new minimum was authorized because of increased living costs.

The law furthermore provides that these wages are not subject to seizure in amounts of more than 10 percent of their total.



ESTE SOLAR HISTÓRICO DE "EL PLUMERILLO", REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA, ENTRE LAS ANDES COLOSALES DOMINADO POR EL GENIO DEL SANTO DE LA ESPADA, QUE ILEVABA A LOS PUEBLOS OPRIMIDOS EL PAN ESPIRITUAL DE LA LIBERTAD, LOS NIÑOS DE LAS ESCUELAS DE MENDOZA, EN NOMBRE DEL GOBIERNO Y PUEBLO ARGENTINOS, REUNIERON EN ESTA TIERRA SANTIFICADA POR EL AMOR AL DERECHO, A LA JUSTICIA Y AL HONOR, PARA QUE HEREDEARE CON LAS DE OTRAS PATRIAS AMERICANAS, SOBRE LA TIERRA DEL GRAN DEMOCRATA DEL SIGLO.

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT



EN MEMORIA DEL PUEBLO ARGENTINO  
VEINTI DE JULIO DE MIL NOVECIENTOS  
CUARENTA Y CINCO

*[Handwritten signatures and notes on the parchment, including names like "Roosevelt", "Luti", "Brunet", "Saravia", "Reyes", "Cooke", "Ferrer", "Vicera", "Colonel", "Fernandez", "Anselmo", "Viacava", "Commodore", "Casazza", "Manlio", "Zileri", "Jorge", "Solá", "Rodolfo", "Barbagelata", "Enrique", "Raspini", "Emilio", "Díaz", "Raúl", "LaCabanne", "Carlos", "de Posada", "Oscar", "Iván", "Pezet"]*

### AN ARGENTINE TRIBUTE TO ROOSEVELT

On April 20, the Argentine Chargé d'Affaires ad-interim, Señor don Luis S. Luti, accompanied by members of the Argentine Embassy, deposited a chest containing Argentine earth at the grave of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in Hyde Park. In the chest was a parchment, a copy of which is shown above.

The text on the parchment says: "From the historic field of El Plumerillo, in the Argentine Republic, at the foot of the mighty Andes dominated by the genius of 'The Saint with the Sword,' who carried to oppressed peoples the spiritual bread of liberty, the school children of Mendoza, in the name of the Argentine government and people, have collected this earth, sanctified by love for law, justice, and honor, to mingle with the soil of other American nations on the tomb of the century's great democrat, Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

While the entire delegation stood by the grave, Señor Luti said: "In the name of the Argentine people and government, I lay by the tomb of the great democrat, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in homage to his memory, this Argentine earth, collected by our school children on the field of El Plumerillo, in the Province of Mendoza, where San Martín began on January 4, 1817, his glorious campaign for independence."

The Chargé d'Affaires was accompanied by Rear Admiral Alberto D. Brunet; Rear Admiral Carlos Saravia; Brigadier Aristóbulo S. Reyes; Señor Genaro W. Cooke; Señor Enrique Ferrer Vicera; Colonel José Fernández; Señor Anselmo M. Viacava; Commodore Pablo Casazza; Señor Manlio A. Zileri; Señor Jorge L. Solá; Señor Rodolfo Barbagelata; Commander Enrique Raspini; Lieutenant Commander Emilio Díaz; Lieutenant Commander Raúl LaCabanne; Señor Carlos de Posada, and Señor Óscar Iván Pezet.

### *Cuban tobacco production and exports in 1945*

Statistics on Cuba's 1945 production and exportation of tobacco were issued in February 1946 by the National Tobacco Commission. Total production was estimated at 63,654,090 pounds, 1.7 percent less than in 1944. Considerably more tobacco was planted for the 1945 crop season, but the October 1944 hurricane and the following prolonged drought greatly cut down production.

Total tobacco exports, valued at \$50,443,025 (2.5 percent below the 1944 figure of \$51,743,762), were divided into the following categories: 29,957,000 pounds of leaf tobacco, valued at \$37,667,359; 109,955,000 cigars, valued at \$12,528,927; 34,908,000 cigarettes, valued at \$166,036; and 71,000 pounds of smoking tobacco, valued at \$80,703.

By far the greater part of Cuba's tobacco exports, both leaf tobacco and manufactured products, went to the United States market, which absorbed 79.8 percent, or \$40,253,640 of the total. Spain was next in importance, with \$4,043,725. Canada also provided a market of considerable importance, having acquired Cuban tobacco worth \$1,274,750. Canada was followed by Argentina, which imported Cuban tobacco products valued at \$941,806. Other American Republics, which also figured as appreciable markets, although to a far lesser extent than those just mentioned, were Chile, Uruguay, Peru, Panama, and Brazil.

### *Low-cost housing in Mexico*

The progress of a country, or of a city, is measured not alone by its imposing public buildings, its fine homes, its broad avenues. Of these Mexico the nation and Mexico the city have a great abundance. But the

kind of homes the working class, the low-income groups, live in is another measure of true social progress—or lack of it.

In this respect the Governments of Mexico and of the Federal District are moving rapidly ahead, as evidenced by two laws, approved by the President on February 11 and 12, 1946, to facilitate the financing of low-cost housing construction.

The first of these laws authorized the Executive Power to grant permission to credit and financial concerns to engage, if they so desire, in savings and loan operations for low-cost housing. The savings accounts will be for the exclusive purpose of acquiring or constructing homes, and the mortgage loan operations will be conducted preferably with the savings depositors for the same purpose. Regulations of the law, to be issued later, will fix the maximum amount of deposits that may be accepted and the conditions for their withdrawal.

Financial institutions engaged in such business must have a minimum capital of 500,000 pesos; their loans must be first mortgage liens only, to be applied to the acquisition, construction, enlargement, or repair of homes, or the payment of debt on homes. The credit extended is limited to 60 percent (or, in special cases to be fixed in the Regulations, 80 percent) of the total value of the mortgaged property, and in no case may exceed 35,000 pesos.

The General Law on Credit Institutions was amended to include these new provisions.

The second law created a new *Banco de Fomento de la Habitación* (Housing Development Bank), for the express purpose of promoting and directing the investment of capital in carrying out a program of construction of single- or multi-family houses to relieve the housing situation in the Federal District. The new bank,



the life of which is unlimited by the law, is further authorized to apply to the Federal District Government for the expropriation of land for housing construction, to engage in assimilable fiduciary operations, and to cooperate with Federal District authorities in the solution of urbanization problems in general.

The Bank, which began to function before the end of March, is located in Mexico City and has a capital of 10,000,000 pesos, made up of 10,000 shares of 1,000 pesos each, subscribed as follows: 51 percent of Series A shares, by the Government of the Federal District; and Series B shares, 17 percent by the General Office of Civil Retirement Pensions, 17 percent by the Mexican Social Security Institute, 14 percent by insurance and security companies, and 1 percent by private business.

The Bank is empowered by law to acquire land, subdivide it, and construct upon it; enter into contracts for the construction of houses or apartments; issue titles guaranteeing the rights of users; issue mortgage and general bonds; extend refinancing credit to construction companies and enter into silent partnerships with them; promote the organization of industries allied to the construction industry; acquire, or produce, construction materials and other accessory equipment; buy and sell bonds, engage in exchange and stock market operations, and receive securities deposits.

Ten percent of the Bank's net profits at the end of a business year must be allocated to a reserve fund until the reserve reaches an amount equal to the legal capital; 5 percent must go into a Special Insurance Reserve Fund; 6 percent will be used for dividends on the Series B shares; an amount yet to be determined for payment of the two Commissioners (to be named one each by the Series A and Series B

shareholders), whose duty is to supervise the Bank's operations; and the remainder into the Special Insurance Reserve Fund.

According to the Mexican press, the first group of homes to be constructed by the Bank will be apartment houses for low-income families in the Colonia Buenos Aires, to be followed by others in Balbuena and other sections of the city. Every effort will be made to make the dwellings as low in cost as is compatible with health and comfort. Single-family homes will be built on the same basis and will be made available for purchase by workers at cost price through monthly payments that will be no more, and probably less, than they now pay for rent of undesirable places.

### *Guatemalan workers and the Constitution*

The Guatemalan constitution of March 1945 recognized the worker's stake in his job by providing for workers who have been unjustly dismissed, and also for those who leave because of abusive treatment, a scale of compensation based upon their length of service. In December the Congress passed a labor law which clarifies and defines this policy.

Workers may be dismissed for acts of violence, for neglect of required safety measures, for drunkenness, for wilful injury to property, for four unexcused absences within a month, or, during the first 40 days of employment, for having misrepresented their ability to do the work for which they were employed. A worker may not be dismissed for refusing a change of assignment which would take him away from home, and he may leave and claim the appropriate compensation from the employer if he is not paid according to agreement, if safety conditions are neglect-

ed, if he is exposed to violence or abuse, or, during the first 40 days of employment, if the work required of him has been misrepresented. A worker who feels that he has been dismissed without sufficient reason may appeal within a week of his dismissal to a labor tribunal, and may claim back pay in case he is reinstated.

Provisions of the law apply to all workers in private employment, both laborers and white collar workers, and are not affected by any waiver which the worker may have signed. They do not apply to employees of municipalities or of the national government.

### *Protection of Indians in Costa Rica*

Costa Rica's new Board for the Protection of the Native Races will concern itself with the health, education, and general welfare of the country's Indian population, and will give special attention to the protection of Indians from any attempts to deprive them of their lands. The presidential decree of December 1945 which provided for the Board declared that all the lands already occupied by Indians are their legal and inalienable property, with the single exception of the strips set aside for the Pan American Highway.

To determine the boundaries of these lands and to assign them, the Board will make use of the technical services of the National Geographic Institute, which was set up 2 years ago as a branch of the Department of Development. Indians will have full title to the lands except that they may sell, mortgage, or lease them only within their own tribes, and then only after authorization from the Board. Indians who have lived away from the Indian settlements for more than four years are not covered by this law.

The five members of the Board are selected for their interest in geography or

in the Indian tribes, and are appointed for an indefinite term. They serve without pay, but may appoint local representatives who will receive a salary.

### *Antituberculosis fund in Uruguay*

The Government of Uruguay recently set up a Permanent National Fund to assist in the fight against tuberculosis, and at the same time created an Honorary Commission to function within the Ministry of Public Health, charged with studying, planning, and advising the Government on measures to combat the disease, organizing and directing a permanent census of tuberculosis sufferers in the country, preparing and disseminating campaign propaganda, and administering the Fund.

The Fund itself, which is to be used exclusively for social assistance pensions to the families of tubercular patients, is to accrue from the following sources: collections made in 1944 and 1945 by the National Anti-Tuberculosis Crusade as organized by the Ministry of Public Health, and the proceeds of future annual or special drives for funds; voluntary federal or municipal contributions; private donations, legacies, and gifts; any annual surpluses of the Ministry of Public Health; and the proceeds of various amusement, license, and telephone service taxes levied by law especially for this purpose.

Public servants who contract tuberculosis will be given three years of leave on full pay, in order to undergo proper treatment. The pensions provided by the Fund will not apply to such persons, but in the case of all other needy tubercular patients the Fund will provide monthly pensions to the families, based on the salary or wage of the patient, size of his family, or his contribution to the family income in case he is not the head of the family. The pensions will be paid for a

term of 3 years and will be extended for 3 months after either recovery or death of the patient.

### *New laws benefit mine workers in Ecuador and Nicaragua*

Legislation covering working hours and base pay for mine workers has recently been enacted in Ecuador and Nicaragua. Ecuadorean miners may not be under ground more than 6 hours a day, and 7 hours is considered an ordinary day's work. Should more than 1 hour be spent in travel time or in preparatory work, the excess must be credited to the worker as overtime, since his wages are based on the 7-hour day.

Nicaragua has set minimum wages for mine workers in the towns of La Libertad and Santo Domingo, as well as the Department of Chontales. This is an earnest attempt on the part of the Government to assure the workers a subsistence wage, in keeping with the cost of living in the various regions. Wages range from 7 córdobas a day for machinists, to 3½ córdobas for porters. (The córdoba is worth \$0.20 U. S. cy.) These wages will be in effect until June 30 of this year.

### *Summer courses*

Among the universities outside the continental United States offering summer courses in Spanish and other Latin American cultural subjects are the University of Habana, the University of Chile, the University of Colombia, the National University of Mexico, and the University of Puerto Rico. For the third time, a Spanish Language Institute in Mexico City is to be conducted for 100 experienced teachers of Spanish under the auspices of the United States Office of Education,

Washington 25, D. C., in cooperation with the National University of Mexico.

A number of United States educational institutions have arranged field tours or courses in Mexico, usually in conjunction with local seats of learning. They include the Universities of New Mexico and Houston; Stanford, Montana State, and Syracuse Universities; Texas State College for Women; the Sam Houston and Kansas State Teachers Colleges; and Texas Technological College.

The number of workshops and summer schools in the United States dealing with the Pan American field is large. Middlebury and Mills Colleges; Sam Houston State Teachers College; Claremont Graduate School; the Universities of Denver and New Mexico; Cornell, Syracuse, and Western Reserve Universities; Pennsylvania State College; and other schools list interesting courses.

### *Ecuador creates scholarships for School of Social Service*

Ecuador has established a National School of Social Service, which will help provide the country with an adequate number of trained social workers. The school is in Quito, and will be under the Ministry of Social Welfare. It will be directed by a social worker who has had education and experience in the field.

In order to aid the students, guarantee their employment, and assure their services to the Government after graduation, the Government will grant a number of scholarships. These scholarships are given to students who promise to complete the regular course of study, which ends with their receiving a diploma in social service work.

The students must guarantee that after graduation they will serve the Government for 2 years, in social service positions

assigned to them, at a salary set by the Ministry of Social Welfare. Should the student be unable to carry out this agreement, he is expected to repay all money received under this scholarship plan. To guarantee this repayment, he must be endorsed by two responsible people who agree to be accountable for his debt.

The scholarships for the 2-year course of study provide 150 sucres a month for students residing in Quito, and 300 sucres a month for students from the provinces.

### *We see by the papers—*

- *Brazil* has reduced its debt to the United States by more than \$67,000,000 during the past 2 years. In November 1943 the debt stood at \$284,012,645, while on December 31, 1945 it amounted to only \$216,698,135. According to Senhor Mario da Camara, Head of the Brazilian Treasury Delegation and Financial Counsellor to the Brazilian Embassy, Brazil's economic position is stronger now than it has ever been, and within a comparatively small number of years the country hopes to be entirely free of all its foreign debt.

- Mr. Ralph H. Allee has been appointed to the position of Director of the *Inter-American* Institute of Agricultural Sciences to succeed Dr. Earl N. Bressman.

Mr. Allee is a well-known international expert on agriculture, and as one of the directors of agricultural research and education activities in the United States Department of Agriculture, his accomplishments prove that he is worthy of the position for which he is recommended. Just before his appointment, Mr. Allee was serving also in the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, where he cooperated in drafting the plans of agricultural research, education, and development of the institution.

- The *Argentine* State Merchant Marine has announced its plans for the acquisition of 12 new ships to replace the Italian and French vessels that were confiscated during the war, and that are now being returned to the governments of those countries. Contracts have already been made with English and Swedish shipbuilding companies for the construction of 6 vessels totaling 55,100 tons. In addition, the President has authorized the Merchant Marine to arrange with European shipyards for the purchase of three 100-passenger ships and two refrigerator boats. The twelfth ship, the exact nature of which is as yet undecided, is to be built by a domestic shipyard. This last vessel will probably be used for the transportation of passengers and freight along the southern coast of the country. The new boats will total 88,100 tons, whereas the foreign vessels they are to replace totaled only 77,048 tons.

- In accordance with the educational agreement signed between *Bolivia* and *Peru* last November (see BULLETIN, April 1946, p. 233), a Conference of teachers representing the two countries was held in Warisata and La Paz, Bolivia, in December. At this Conference detailed plans of study for the rural primary schools of the Lake Titicaca region were outlined, and directives issued for orienting teachers in the implementation of these plans. A general set of rules and regulations for the primary schools of the region was agreed upon.

- Telephone service between *Cuba* and the Isle of Pines was put into operation on March 14, 1946, thus filling a long-felt need of the Isle of Pines for modern communication with the Cuban mainland. The Cuban press, in noting the event, pointed out the fact that the telephone communication was established 452 years

after the Isle was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage, and 21 years after the United States Senate approved the treaty whereby the United States Senate renounced in favor of Cuba all claims to the Isle of Pines.

- *Mexico* is preparing to carry on its literacy campaign without interruption. A decree of February 11, 1946, extended the duration of the campaign, which was started early in 1945 under the provisions of the law of August 21, 1944. As soon as the results of the campaign can be evaluated and made known, the Government plans to take the necessary steps to make it a permanent institution.

- During the 1944-45 season, a total of 943,710 acres was devoted to cotton in *Argentina*. Some 217,700 tons of raw cotton were produced, which yielded 72,000 tons of cotton fiber. The latter figure, because of drought conditions and various plant diseases, is less than that registered in the two preceding years, and smaller by 15,500 tons than the average for the 5-year period 1939-40 to 1943-44. It is estimated that approximately the same area, or 943,922 acres, was planted in cotton for the 1945-46 season.

- A recent executive decree in *Argentina* provided for the creation by the Bureau of Aeronautics of a National Air Merchant Fleet. The Líneas Aéreas del Estado will be used as the base for the creation of the Fleet, and the participation of interested Argentine companies will be invited. The same decree named the Líneas Aéreas del Estado as the executive organ of the Government in carrying out its international aviation policies.

- As a further extension of its program to increase the practical value of its services, the National University of *El Salvador* is establishing a School of Agriculture. Funds made available to the University on

the closing of the Technological Institute (amounting to approximately 100,000 colones) are being used for this purpose.

- The National Agricultural Center being set up on the Zapotitán hacienda in *El Salvador* will be the leading agricultural station in the country and probably one of the most important in Central America. The laboratories for this center are expected to cost over 50,000 colones.

- Caracas, *Venezuela* recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the birth of the poet Juan Antonio Pérez Bonalde. The Federal District named a school in his honor, and placed a floral tribute on his statue in the park which bears his name. The National Government will publish a one-volume edition of his literary works, and has decreed that his remains be moved to the National Pantheon.

- The city of Colón, *Panama*, opened a new stadium on January 4 with a baseball game attended by 4,000 fans.

- A system of Tourist Identification Cards, under which tourists may visit the Republic of *Panama* for purposes of recreation or study, became effective January 1, 1946. This eliminates the necessity of obtaining a passport or visa. The tourist card may be secured, upon presentation of proof of citizenship, from transportation companies at a cost of \$1. Valid for a stay of 90 days, it may be renewed for an additional 90 days by application to the office of the Panama National Tourist Commission in Panama City.

- A mixed commission of *Chilean* and *Argentine* engineers is reported to have finished preliminary studies for a new tunnel on the Transandine Railway uniting Buenos Aires and Santiago. It will be about 12½ miles long and will obviate danger from avalanches.

- *Honduras* now has a population of 1,201,310, according to figures submitted by the governors of the various Departments in the census taken in June 1945.
- The *Venezuelan* Government will protect its Orinoco River turtles, on the islands of Pararuma, Playa Blanca and Cabullarito, by regulating the turtling industry. In the future all turtlers must have a permit, granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Stockraising, and dependent on the intended use of the catch. The turtling season lasts from February 20 to April 1, these dates being movable so as not to overlap the spawning season. The total catch per day during 1946, for all turtlers, must not exceed 800 turtles, and if during the season there is a noticeable decrease in the number of turtles on the beaches, the Ministry of Agriculture and Stockraising may order immediate cessation of turtling. The taking of eggs and newly hatched turtles is strictly prohibited, and all remains not used for industrial purposes must be incinerated far from the beaches.
- In São Paulo, capital of the great cotton-growing state in *Brazil*, the Commodity Exchange has conducted since 1923 a school to teach cotton-grading. This has had more than 900 graduates, who have played an important part in seeing that exports meet purchasers' specifications.
- A recent *Cuban* decree called for the registration, within the next 6 months, of all children under 14 years of age in the Republic whose births have not already been duly recorded. A large number of children, because of abandonment, carelessness or ignorance of their parents, or because they happened to be born in remote places, have not heretofore had their births registered. The Government, desirous of having accurate statistics on which to base school programs, is taking this step to fill the existing gap.
- An executive resolution in *Uruguay*, dated December 14, 1945, recommended to all Wage Councils of the nation that, in fixing wages for women workers, they proceed on the basis of equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex. In cases where production by women workers is such as to make an adjustment seem advisable or necessary, the resolution recommended that the Wage Councils fix a wage differential of not more than 20 percent between women and men.
- On February 21, 1946, another electric power plant began to function in *Mexico*. This newest product of the work of the Federal Power Commission is located in Veracruz, has a capacity of 10,500 kilowatts per hour, will supply electricity to the shipyards and pumping station of Veracruz, and will interconnect with the Puebla-Veracruz power system. It is expected to give new impetus to industries of the region.
- The Federal Power Commission, created in August 1937, whose only source of income is the proceeds of the consumption tax on electricity, now has 25 plants under construction in various parts of the country.
- A 1945 official estimate of livestock existing in *Argentina* places the number of cattle at 34,010,300, of sheep at 56,181,800, of hogs at 8,009,700, and of horses at 7,473,300.
- The rose was declared the national flower of *Honduras* on January 12, 1946.
- The Compañía Cubana de Aviación (*Cuban Aviation Company*) recently received an award from the Inter-American Safety Council for having completed 11 consecutive years of operation without a single fatal accident. During this 11-year period, the company's planes flew a total of 47,965,760 passenger miles.

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.



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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: A SCENE IN SOUTHERN ARGENTINA, NEAR LAKE NAHUEL-HUAPÍ AND THE ANDES (Courtesy of Argentine Embassy).





USDA photograph

### PICKING COTTON

Some species of cotton are native to the Americas, the inhabitants of which skilfully spun and wove the fiber long before the time of Columbus.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 7



JULY 1946

## The Development of Inter-American Cooperation in Agriculture

WILSON POPENOE

*Director of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana*

EVERYONE knows of the great contributions to Old World agriculture which the Americas made at the time of the Discovery: maize, potatoes, tobacco, peanuts, tomatoes, pineapples, and many more. In return the New World received such things as sugar cane, wheat and barley, bananas, and oranges. The conquistadors, and especially the missionaries who accompanied them, were tireless in their efforts to establish the familiar crops of the homeland in the territories which they were colonizing, and at the same time were deeply interested in sending back to Europe the strange and remarkable products of the Indies.

Thus were sown the seeds of agricultural

*In honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. L. S. Rowe as Director General of the Pan American Union, the BULLETIN is publishing a series of papers on inter-American relations, 1920-1945, of which this is the seventh.*

cooperation in the Americas; for it is through the exchange of useful plants that we are first able to help each other in this field.

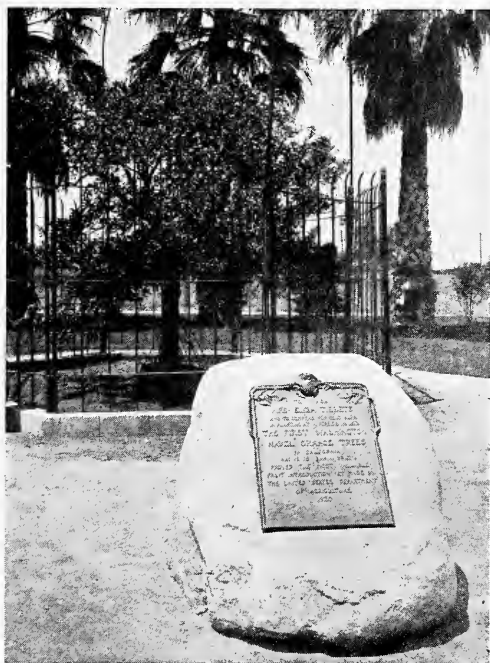
Coming down to our own times, we have a notable example of the tremendous benefits which can derive from this sort of work in the *laranja de umbigo*, or navel orange, of Bahia, which in the year 1870 was sent to the United States from Brazil. It had originated there as a mutation and had been propagated by a Portuguese horticulturist. In less than half a century, this fruit became the basis of a great industry in California.

Then, about the year 1900, the exchange of useful plants assumed definite, organized form, through the development in the United States Department of Agriculture of an Office of Foreign Seed and Plant



Introduction. This was in the nature of a revival, for since the days of colonization relatively little had been done to move useful plants from one country to another—except in isolated cases such as the establishment of American cinchona and rubber in the Asiatic tropics—and these projects were unilateral in character.

The work organized in Washington under the able direction of David Fairchild was carried out by a corps of agricultural explorers whose instructions were “to ascertain in what way a mutually beneficial exchange of seeds and plants might be established, between the countries visited and the United States of America.”



Courtesy of USDA

#### NAVEL ORANGE TREE AND COMMEMORATIVE TABLET

This is one of the first two trees of the Washington navel orange planted in California. The tablet bears the inscription: “To honor Mrs. Eliza Tibbets and to commend her good work in planting at Riverside in 1873, the first Washington navel orange trees in California, native to Bahia, Brazil, proved the most valuable fruit introduction yet made by the United States Department of Agriculture. 1920.”

Supervised by Dr. Fairchild himself for more than a quarter of a century, the activities of this office—now known as the Division of Foreign Plant Exploration and Introduction—have continued down to the present day. Through correspondence as well as through the travels of agricultural explorers, many thousands of plants have been distributed to Latin American countries, while other thousands have gone from there to the United States. Similar organizations have been established in several countries, notably in Argentina under the direction of Ing. Enrique C. Clos, and it is fair to assume that great benefits will continue to accrue in many ways, for as Dr. Fairchild has said in a recent letter to me from his home in Florida, “What diplomatic moves can compare, in effects of lasting character, with the introduction of a new plant that becomes an industry?”

#### *Cooperation in recent times*

It is the purpose of this paper to review, in a general way, the progress of agricultural cooperation in the Americas during the past quarter of a century. The recent celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Dr. L. S. Rowe's directorship of the Pan American Union has suggested this; and it seems especially appropriate since most of the great developments have taken place during this period. By way of introduction, I have sketched above what forms, in my mind, the background; for I am convinced that it was through the exchange of useful plants that all of us first came to think of agricultural cooperation. Following this exchange came succeeding stages: the need for information, for experimentation, for better methods of pest control; and in these and many other lines it has become increasingly evident that all of us can cooperate to our mutual advantage.





#### CINCHONA BARK DRYING IN THE SUN

From the powdered bark of the cinchona tree, native to Latin America, quinine is extracted. Cinchona trees grow wild on the eastern slopes of the Andes, from Colombia southward through Ecuador and Peru to Bolivia, and are now being cultivated in Guatemala and various other American countries.

History can be written in two ways: either as a well-documented review of past events, or as a more or less personal account of what one has seen and heard oneself. In undertaking to point out some of the trends and achievements of the past quarter century, I choose the latter course. My account will therefore be less complete, but at the same time I believe that a rather intimate contact with agricultural developments in Latin America during thirty years should enable one to sense the trends, to appreciate the possibilities, and to acquire a justified enthusiasm regarding the achievements of the past and the possibilities of the future.

#### *The Division of Agricultural Cooperation in the Pan American Union*

The quarter of a century under review takes us back, we may say, to 1920. Previous to this much had been accomplished.

Good work had been done in Mexico. An excellent experiment station had been founded in Cuba—almost at the turn of the century—where F. S. Earle, C. F. Baker, W. T. Horne, and others had worked in close cooperation with the Cubans. Benjamin Hunnicutt was directing an agricultural school at Lavras in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil. Charles F. Sutton was working with the Peruvians on the development of irrigation projects in the fertile coastal valleys of that republic. Willet M. Hayes of the United States Department of Agriculture had been called to Argentina. David Fairchild and his staff had explored the agricultural possibilities of many countries, from Mexico to Chile. James Birch Rorer and a group of technicians had gone to Ecuador to organize the fight against the witches' broom disease of cacao and to conduct agricultural experiments in general. These



O. I. A. A. photograph

#### A YOUNG RUBBER PLANTATION

Among the useful trees native to the Americas are those yielding rubber, upon which a vast industry has been built. Inter-American cooperative efforts have been devoted to selecting and propagating high-yielding stock.

examples suffice to show that cooperation was passing out of the first stage, that of plant exchange, and entering broader channels.

Dr. Rowe at Washington was in touch with these developments and anxious to help. More and more, visitors from Latin America were coming to the United States: some of these were interested in agriculture, and came to the Pan American Union for advice. When I returned in 1921 from a long trip through Central and South America, we discussed the possibilities. It was realized that the potential wealth of many Latin American republics lies in rational development of agricultural resources. Gradually the idea of an office to assist more definitely in this field assumed tangible form. Franklin Adams, then Counselor of the Union, took an

active part in planning the program.

Due to the scarcity of modern agricultural literature in the languages of Latin America, it was decided to commence with a series of publications. Thus was inaugurated, in January 1925, the series of agricultural bulletins.

These bulletins, first edited by me, then by William A. Orton until his death, and during recent years by José L. Colom—now Chief of the Division—form a vast body of information on many agricultural subjects, and have the almost unique character of being written for, and adapted to, tropical American conditions.

In 1928, pursuant to a resolution of the Sixth International Conference of American States, the Division of Agricultural Cooperation was established. Both Dr. Rowe and Dr. Esteban Gil Borges, then

Assistant Director of the Pan American Union, had warmly supported this idea.

After the appointment of José L. Colom (in January 1930) to take charge of the new Division, activities were expanded. With the inauguration of the Inter-American Agricultural Conferences in 1930 came increased opportunities for mutual needs to be discussed, for problems to be brought into the light. From the beginning, it seemed to all of us that the logical place for the American republics to exchange agricultural information is in the Pan American Union. Looking back with an impartial eye, I believe that achievements to date have been greater than could have been expected, when one takes into account the limited funds which have been available. Further ex-

pansion of this work (which has been recommended in various forms by all of the Inter-American Agricultural Conferences) is much to be desired.

#### *The Tropical Plant Research Foundation*

Another important step was taken in the early 1920's. This was the establishment of the Tropical Plant Research Foundation.

It had been obvious for many years that the development of tropical American agriculture was dependent in large measure upon technical investigation and experimentation. There was need for this sort of work in many regions, with many crops. William A. Orton, who had spent most of his life in the United States Department of Agriculture, became in-



Courtesy of Middle America Information Bureau

#### UNLOADING BANANAS AT NEW ORLEANS

Bananas are an important crop introduced into the New World from the Old

terested and left the Department to undertake the organization and development of a research institution which would operate in collaboration with national governments and commercial interests in tropical America.

Dr. Orton was an outstanding figure in the field of agricultural science. His great prestige, plus his enthusiasm and devotion to the work, made possible the development of an organization which was eminently fitted to carry out the program he had visualized. Commercial interests in Cuba financed an experiment station at Central Baraguá, where a group of scientists under the leadership of D. L. Van Dine studied cane varieties, cultural practices, pest control, and the like. As a separate project the Foundation, with the assistance of the United States Department of Agriculture, conducted an extensive study of soils, from which emanated a publication which will remain a landmark in the history of tropical American agricul-

ture—Bennett and Allison's *Soils of Cuba*.

A survey of forest resources in the Caribbean area was made by Tom Gill. Plans were on foot for the development of an extensive program of investigation in Colombia, where Carlos Chardón of Puerto Rico, one of the most distinguished plant scientists for the American tropics, had previously directed a survey which suggested many interesting lines of work.

The untimely death of Dr. Orton, together with difficulties in obtaining financial support during the depression of the early 1930's, gradually curtailed the activities of the Foundation until finally it ceased operating and the American tropics lost one of their best hopes for scientific attack upon agricultural problems.

#### *The experiment stations*

In all parts of the world, the progress of modern agriculture has been closely linked with the development of experiment stations—centers where intensive, continuous



SUGAR CANE EXPERIMENT FIELD AT PALMIRA, COLOMBIA

As a result of experiments made at the Palmira Agricultural Station, the resistance, sugar content, and production of Colombian cane have been greatly improved.



Foreign Agricultural Relations, USDA

### THE EXPERIMENT STATION AT TINGO MARÍA, PERU

Developed by Peru in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, this station, in the Amazon basin, is rapidly assuming importance.

investigation can be carried out under the supervision of highly trained specialists. To be successful, these stations must have adequate and continuous financial support; they must be staffed by personnel with good scientific training; and there must be no interference with their programs. Especially in the smaller countries, it is not a simple matter to attain all these ends.

Nevertheless, definite progress has been made during the quarter-century under review. There is a growing tendency—to be discussed more fully later—to send young men from the Latin American republics abroad for specialized training under leaders in their respective branches. This is the first step, for without adequately prepared personnel an experiment station is of little value. And on the other hand, technicians from the United States as well as from several European countries have taken part in the development of stations in Latin America.

Mexico now has a number of stations, strategically situated for the study of different crops. Cuba has its station at Santiago de las Vegas, distinguished for its long career without serious interruption, and several minor ones. The Harvard Botanic Garden at Soledad, near Cienfuegos, has rendered notable assistance in the development of new crops for the Island. Two stations in Puerto Rico, one at Mayagüez and one at Río Piedras, have long been recognized as leading centers of agricultural investigation in tropical America. Colombia has in recent years established a series of stations, of which the one at Palmira, in the Cauca valley, may be cited as an excellent example of a well equipped center of agricultural investigation. Venezuela also has developed an excellent center of experimentation, where the work of Dr. Derald Langham on corn, sesame, and several other tropical crops has been outstanding.

Argentina, Brazil, and Chile have long been operating such centers effectively and profitably. The recently established station at Tingo María, in Peru, developed in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, is rapidly assuming importance.

Of particular value as centers for the introduction and distribution of new crop plants may be mentioned the Plant Introduction Gardens at Summit in the Canal Zone, and Lancetilla Experiment Station at Tela, Honduras. The latter, established in 1926 by the Tela Railroad Company (a subsidiary of the United Fruit Company), probably has the most extensive collection in tropical America of Asiatic fruits, as well as new crops such as African oil palms and many other economic plants.

Numerous other stations are now established or in formation in Guatemala, in El Salvador, in Nicaragua, in Ecuador, and elsewhere. Several of them are co-operative projects between the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the United States Department of Agriculture and the governments of the countries concerned. In fact, there have been more developments of this sort during the past six or seven years than there were from the beginning of the century up to that time. While this trend has been particularly true of the smaller countries, it demonstrates a general awakening to the need for intensive investigation of agricultural problems and shows that throughout tropical America we are passing out of the first stage of agricultural development—that of plant introduction—into the succeeding one of investigation and research.

### *The agricultural schools*

No country can adequately develop its agricultural resources without schools especially designed for the purpose, and

these may be of two kinds: vocational and professional. Both exist in Latin America, though up to the present there has been an understandable tendency to place more emphasis on the latter.

Schools, to be good, must be expensive. Well trained teachers must be well paid. The larger, wealthier countries can afford to hire the best talent available; in the smaller ones the problem is serious. And a professional school, without a teaching staff of superior character, is not satisfactory.

Realizing this, some of the smaller countries have limited themselves to the operation of vocational schools. A few have made laudable sacrifices to hire the best talent available for professional ones. Where well trained men were not available locally they have been brought from abroad.

The development of agricultural education necessarily must be a slow process. Despite this, much progress has been made during the past quarter of a century. We should view the matter in a broad light: education comes about not only through schools, but through making knowledge available to the people as a whole. In this connection, I wish once again to point out the invaluable service which has been rendered by the Pan American Union through its extensive series of agricultural bulletins.

It is not practicable here to mention all of the agricultural schools which have been established in Latin America. I can call attention to only a few which have come under my personal observation.

Mexico has done a great work in developing at Chapingo—largely, I think, through the efforts of Marte R. Gómez, now Secretary of Agriculture—a school which is beautifully equipped and which combines practical with professional training to a high degree. That this has been expensive





Courtesy of Dr. J. C. Belo Lisboa

### ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE AGRICULTURA, VIÇOSA, BRAZIL

Located in the State of Minas Gerais, this school, organized and developed by the late Peter Henry Rolfs, is a landmark in the development of agricultural education in Latin America.

adds credit to the achievement: for how can public moneys be spent more profitably than on public education?

Cuba has a professional school in connection with the University at Habana, and *granjas*, or vocational schools, in the provinces. Guatemala has a vocational school near the capital, under the direction of an American technician, Dr. Albert S. Muller. Nicaragua has a vocational school at Chinandega. Costa Rica has a professional school at San José, founded some twenty years ago by Bernardo R. Yglesias, who received his training in the United States. Panama has a recently established a vocational school at Divisa, under the direction of Dr. Menalco Solís, also trained in the United States. Colombia has a professional school at Medellín; the rector is Dr. Carlos Madrid, who received his postgraduate training at Cornell. There is a second one at Cali, and vocational schools elsewhere. Venezuela has a vocational school at Maracay, and a professional one at Caracas. Ecuador has a vocational school at Ambato, which was established by Dr. Augusto Martínez and for many years ably directed by Abelardo

Pachano, a Cornell graduate. (I mention these men as trained in the United States to show that here, again, there has been cooperation in the broadest sense.) Peru has an excellent professional school at La Molina near Lima. Chile, Argentina, Brazil, and other countries all have excellent schools, with which I am not so familiar. Puerto Rico has its long-established College of Agriculture at Mayagüez, recognized as one of the best in tropical America.

Two schools I should like to mention in more detail. The first is the Escola Superior de Agricultura at Viçosa, in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil; the other is our own, the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana near Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

I think I am voicing popular opinion when I say that the school at Viçosa is a landmark in the development of agricultural education in Latin America. It was organized and developed by one of the great figures in the history of subtropical horticulture, the late Peter Henry Rolfs. After having served for many years as Dean of the Florida State College of Agriculture and Director of the Experiment



Courtesy of the United Fruit Company

#### ESCUELA AGRÍCOLA PANAMERICANA IN HONDURAS

Founded in 1941 by the United Fruit Company, this school provides vocational training in agriculture for Latin American youths. Above: Main building. Below: The first graduating class (1946). Twelve countries are represented in the student body of 160.

Station, Dr. Rolfs was called to Brazil by the government of the state of Minas Gerais to found an institution which would combine the vocational and the professional aspects of agricultural education. This school was opened in 1927 and has made an enviable record for itself.

Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, located twenty-two miles from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, was founded in 1941 by the United

Fruit Company to provide vocational training in agriculture for Latin American (and especially Central American) youths. Its 160 students come from twelve countries—all the way from Mexico to Peru. Funds for its maintenance are provided entirely by the Company, and all students enjoy full scholarships, which include board, clothes, lodging, medical and dental attention, and necessary equipment



for their work. During their three-year course the boys work mornings on the school farm, rotating from department to department; in the afternoons they have three hours of classroom and laboratory exercises, during which they study the English language and subjects relating to tropical agriculture.

Obviously, the results of this attempt to provide good vocational training and at the same time develop a spirit of good citizenship and Pan Americanism remain to be determined; though the first class of sixty-three, which was graduated in March 1946, gives ground for feeling that the methods employed are sound. Obviously, however, those of us who are involved in carrying out this project are not the ones to speak. We are encouraged by the fact that educators from other countries, who have visited our school in considerable numbers, have gone away expressing confidence, and that we have had requests from several other Latin American schools for information regarding our program.

#### *Scholarships*

In the field of inter-American cooperation, recent years have probably witnessed no more important trend than the increased attention devoted to the subject of scholarships—scholarships in agriculture, scholarships in the social sciences, scholarships in medicine, and so on. And I do not refer solely to the scholarships offered by institutions in the United States; I have equally in mind the exchange of students between various Latin American republics, the exchange of students in general. This, I am convinced, is not only one of the most effective means of developing a sound Pan Americanism; it is also the best means of insuring that able students shall have opportunity to obtain training under the best teachers in their respective fields, no matter

where these teachers may be located.\*

We need scholarships, more and more of them. Scholarships which will enable North American students to study in the universities of Latin America; scholarships which will enable students from the Dominican Republic, where irrigation is the great hope of the agricultural future, to spend a year in Mexico; scholarships which will make it possible for students from the highlands of Colombia, where the cultivation of temperate-zone fruits is beginning to receive serious attention, to spend a year in Chile. I might continue in this vein indefinitely.

It is the dream of many Latin American students to study under specialists in the United States, just as it was the dream of many North American students, at the time I was in college, to study in the great universities of Heidelberg and the Sorbonne. This whole field has opened up immensely in the past ten years, due in large part to the broad-minded policy of the United States government; the efforts of the Pan American Union; the President's Committee for Inter-American Cooperation in Agricultural Education (of which Dean Ryerson of California was chairman for several years, and Dean Hume of Florida, Dean Kyle of Texas, and Dean Lee of Louisiana have been influential members); and at times through the individual generosity of such men as David Burpee of Philadelphia, who established, and has maintained, the Burpee Scholarship in Horticulture at the Florida State College of Agriculture.

Scholarships, to be most useful, should go into the hands of students definitely interested in pursuing some particular branch of learning—or so it seems to me. And in many instances, the requirements for matriculation in one country or one institution are not the same as those of others. Therefore, in place of giving

scholarships covering a standard course of undergraduate instruction, I like the sort of scholarship which permits a student to attend the institution of his choice and pursue studies which will particularly fit him for the career he has in mind. When a student is prepared for postgraduate work, what he needs is assistance in obtaining specialized training, usually with a view to an advanced degree in his chosen field. When a student is not prepared to take advanced training, but has definite aims and is intellectually mature, nothing would seem more useful than an opportunity of the kind provided by the Burpee scholarship. This gives a man interested in horticulture one year at the Florida State College of Agriculture, where he can choose those courses which will prove most valuable to him. He does not have to meet academic requirements of admission to the university, and he does not have to take any prescribed subjects.

But to achieve good results, scholarships must be granted with care, and that is why I like the technique employed by the Rockefeller Foundation, which investigates thoroughly the qualifications of an applicant, from every angle.

#### *Agricultural attachés*

Another development of the period we are here reviewing is the use of agricultural attachés—or as they are termed in some instances, agricultural advisors—as implements of inter-American cooperation in agriculture. Until a few years ago, agricultural attachés were not numerous; they were sent by large countries mainly to other large countries, and they were more often skilled economists rather than highly trained agriculturists with a good background of practical experience. This was proper enough; a North American attaché who was primarily an expert in crop production could not be of much use to the

people of France, nor could a British attaché with broad experience in farming be of much use to the people of Italy. But here in the Americas we were missing an opportunity.

An attaché from Colombia, placed in Argentina, has the finest chance in the world—because of his diplomatic status—to study livestock production, or crop production, and take back home with him much useful information. An attaché from the United States, with experience in farming under irrigation, can be of immense service in a country like Nicaragua, or Guatemala, or the Dominican Republic. There is, it seems to me, an immense field for mutual usefulness here which is just beginning to be touched. I believe those who are familiar with the work of James H. Kempton in Venezuela, or H. V. Geib in Colombia, or Graham Quate and T. J. Grant in Central America, will bear me out.

#### *The inter-American conferences*

Developing out of the Pan American Scientific Congresses, the Inter-American Conferences on Agriculture first took form, under the auspices of the Pan American Union, at Washington in 1930. Since then two further meetings have been held, one at Mexico City in 1942 and one at Caracas in 1945. Having attended all of these as delegate of the Republic of Honduras, I feel I can take the liberty of commenting on their usefulness and their possibilities in the future.

They are expensive to all concerned—especially the host country—and to be justifiable they must be productive of good results in one form or another. This, I believe, has definitely been the case, and primarily for one reason: they bring together representative technicians as well as administrative officers in the field of agriculture from all of the American republics.



INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, COSTA RICA

Among the Institute's several buildings at Turrialba is this large modern dormitory for students.

We get acquainted. We develop friendships which mean much to us personally, and which lead in many instances to subsequent exchanges of plant materials, of the results of research, and the like. They also give the agriculturists of many countries an opportunity to see the agriculture of another, for there are always field trips to points of agricultural interest.

Perhaps this is enough; but there is added the discussion of many problems of continental interest, the crystallization of ideas on many points. The only criticism which might be made in this connection is that time is usually too short to permit a thorough airing of views on many important subjects; and there are too many of these. It might be helpful if, instead of bringing ready-made resolutions to the conferences, the delegates were invited to sit down and discuss major problems, one by one, and then draw up a single resolution on each point, embodying the sense of the conference.

#### *New developments*

At the beginning of the war, several government agencies were set up in the

United States with a view to providing assistance to Latin American countries during the emergency. One agency, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations in the United States Department of Agriculture, had been previously established on a permanent footing, with a branch devoted to technical collaboration, including in its field of action the Latin American republics. This branch, under the able direction of Dr. Ross E. Moore, has undertaken numerous cooperative projects—in Guatemala, in El Salvador, in Nicaragua, in Ecuador, in Peru, and elsewhere. They are mainly in the nature of experiment stations, but there is also a feature which appeals particularly to me, as likely in the long run to be productive of much good. This is the provision of specialists in the various branches of agriculture, whose duty it is to travel from country to country, assisting government agencies and individual agriculturists to solve their problems. I should mention in particular the activities of Dr. S. Healea Work in animal husbandry.

The Food Supply Division of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs (originally

under the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and now transferred as part of the Institute to the supervision of the Secretary of State) has carried out, during the war, a number of projects in Latin America which have been productive of much good; while the Inter-American Educational Foundation, which had its origin in the same office and is now likewise subordinate to the Secretary of State, is providing material assistance in rural education. All of these things help, and are of particular interest as indicating the awakening which has taken place in recent years.

Excellent research work is being done on fundamental subjects at the recently organized Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, until lately directed by the indefatigable Carlos E. Chardón. This institution is international in its scope, and hence deserves to be included in the list of those which are contributing to inter-American cooperation; as do others with which I am not familiar and do not intentionally omit.

Finally, it remains to mention the recently organized Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences at Turrialba, Costa Rica. Fathered by the Hon. Henry

A. Wallace, this is the realization of all our dreams of inter-American cooperation in agricultural research and specialized training. Organized under the auspices of the Pan American Union, with José L. Colom of the Union as its Secretary, it is located in a region where tropical agricultural problems, both those of the hot lowlands and the cool dry uplands, can be attacked. Financially sponsored by numerous American republics, it is the ideal place for preparing scientific workers in an atmosphere of Pan Americanism. It is now directed by Ralph H. Allee, formerly of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations in the United States Department of Agriculture; its first director was Earl N. Bressman.

Those of us who have been watching the trend of agricultural development and agricultural cooperation in Latin America during the past quarter of a century can say with feeling, Here at last is the sort of institution we have been needing; an institution situated in the tropics, an institution supported by many nations, where the youth of all can come together for training and research in those branches of science on which the economic future of many countries so largely depends.

# Rómulo Betancourt

## President of the Revolutionary Government Junta in Venezuela

RÓMULO BETANCOURT was born in Guatire, State of Miranda, Venezuela, in 1908. He studied for his bachelor's degree in Caracas, and in 1926 entered the law school of the Central University in that city. Two years later he was obliged to leave the country because of his active participation in the organization of a student movement against the dictatorship of Juan Vicente Gómez. While he was away from Venezuela Señor Betancourt lived in the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Peru. During his exile he devoted himself to studying American problems and conditions and to maturing his political and economic ideas.

On the death of Gómez in 1936, Señor Betancourt returned to Venezuela and plunged into political life, working for the formation of a political party which would fight for a truly democratic government offering economic justice to the country. But in 1940 he again had to leave Venezuela, expelled by the government of President López Contreras as the result of his active opposition. He went to Chile and then to Mexico and the United States.

Señor Betancourt's studies in exile fitted him to evaluate the political and economic problems of Venezuela realistically without giving up the ideals which have always inspired him in his political struggle. In Venezuela he wrote for the press numerous articles on political and economic conditions in the Republic, analyzing with a scientific criterion the origin of Venezuelan difficulties and proposing practical and



effective solutions. When he returned to Venezuela after his second exile, he joined Democratic Action, a people's party of which he had been one of the chief organizers and leaders. On October 18, 1945, when the revolutionary movement took place in Venezuela with the active cooperation of this party, Rómulo Betancourt, who was its Secretary General, became President of the Revolutionary Government Junta.

His first means of expression in student days at Central University were purely literary, and in a short-story competition held at Caracas in 1927, he won the first prize. But political life has carried him into other fields.

# Dantès Bellegarde

## *Haitian Representative on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*



M. BELLEGARDE, a learned and experienced diplomat, returned to head his country's mission in Washington as Chargé d'Affaires in March, and as Ambassador to the United States in June. Since April he has been the Representative of Haiti on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

Education in the broadest sense has been one of M. Bellegarde's chief interests since his graduation from the Lycée Pétion and from the Law School at Port-au-Prince, where he was born on May 18, 1877. First he was a teacher in the Lycée and then its principal; later he became professor of political economy in the School

of Applied Sciences and of civil law in the Law School of the Haitian capital. With this experience he was well qualified for a post as division chief in the Ministry of Public Instruction, from 1904-7; and he returned to head the Ministry of Public Instruction and Agriculture for two years, beginning in 1918. M. Bellegarde has been honored, and two American institutions enriched, by visiting professorships at Atlanta University in 1940 and Howard University in 1942-43. In the latter year he acted too as Cultural Attaché *ad honorem* of the Haitian Embassy in Washington.

The record of M. Bellegarde's diplomatic career begins in 1921, when he became Minister Plenipotentiary to France and the Vatican. This post he held until 1923; for two years he was also Haitian Delegate to the League of Nations. His appointment to the League was repeated in 1930, and in the meantime (1924-25) he was a member of the League Temporary Commission on Slavery and Forced Labor. He was again Minister Plenipotentiary to France in 1930-31.

The scene of M. Bellegarde's diplomatic service was shifted to the Americas in 1931, when he became Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States; he stayed in this country until 1933. He was numbered among the delegates to the Eighth International Conference of American States at Lima in 1938, and attended the Third Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics at Rio de Janeiro in 1942 as adviser and alternate delegate of Haiti.

M. Bellegarde has been honored by a

number of foreign countries. He holds an honorary LL. D. from the University of Santo Domingo and an honorary Litt. D. from the University of Montreal; he is a Commander of the Legion of Honor (France) and a Grand Officer of the Order of the Liberator (Venezuela), as well as a Grand Officer of the Order

of Honor and Merit of his own country.

As an author M. Bellegarde has written ably on subjects of national importance. His chief works are: *Pour une Haïti Heureuse*, two volumes; *Un Haïtien Parle*; *La Nation Haïtienne*; *La Résistance Haïtienne*; *Haïti et ses Problèmes*. He is furthermore a distinguished speaker.



## Juan Bautista de Lavallo

### *Representative of Peru on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

JUAN Bautista de Lavallo, the Ambassador of Peru appointed *ad hoc* by his government, took his seat on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union on May 23, 1946.

Dr. de Lavallo brings to the Board a wide knowledge of the law and experience in it, recognized in 1945 by the crowning tribute of election by Congress to the Peruvian Supreme Court.

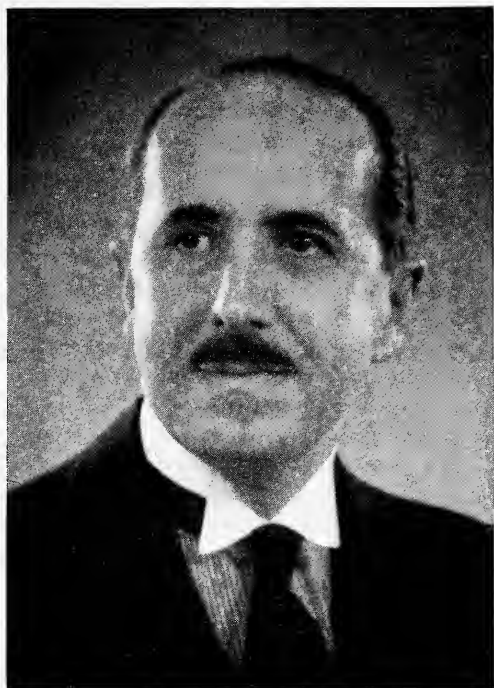
Even before he was graduated in philosophy, letters, law, and political science from the ancient University of San Marcos, Dr. de Lavallo began to be active in international affairs, for in 1910 he was a delegate to the Second Inter-American Student Congress in Buenos Aires. In 1913, at the age of twenty-four, he was appointed organizing secretary in Peru of the American Association for International Conciliation of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. After two years as first secretary and chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Peruvian Legation in Bolivia, Dr. de Lavallo went to Paris in 1919

as first secretary of the Peruvian Legation and Secretary of the Peruvian delegation to the Peace Conference.

In 1920, again combining law with diplomacy, he was given the important task, commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Relations, of selecting the documents relating to the Peruvian case in the international arbitration then pending.

At this point in his career, Dr. de Lavallo returned to academic halls, teaching the Introduction to Juridical and Political Science, Private International Law, and Comparative Law at the University of San Marcos. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Law School and of the Editorial Committee of its Law Review. In 1938, before the Eighth International Conference of American States met at Lima, Dr. de Lavallo was appointed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to serve on the committee considering the program for the conference.

A few years later, in 1941 and 1943, Dr. de Lavallo was named a member of the



committees set up by the Law School of San Marcos to coordinate and unify American law and to study international postwar problems. In the former year he was elected by the first conference of the Inter-American Bar Association at

Habana a member of the first Executive Committee, a position in which he was continued by the second conference in 1943. From 1942 to 1945 he took part in the important work of revising the Peruvian Commercial Code.

Dr. de Lavalle is a member of the following learned societies: the Peruvian Academy affiliated with the Spanish Academy of Letters; the Peruvian Academy of Law and Political Science; the Historical Institute of Peru; Charter Member of the Peruvian Society of International Law and at present its Vice President; honorary member of the Brazilian Bar Association; honorary member of the Peruvian Institute of Criminal Law; corresponding member of the Argentine Institute of Juridical and Social Philosophy and of the Rome Institute of Legislative Studies.

Dr. de Lavalle has written extensively on law (thirty-three titles), education (nine titles), and general subjects (ten titles). His latest work, published in 1944 in collaboration with Dr. J. Ayasta González, is an annotated translation of Claude du Pasquier's *Introduction to the General Theory of Law and to Juridical Philosophy*. The preface is by Dr. de Lavalle.



# Inter-American Labor Meeting in Mexico

V. A. ZIMMER

*Director, Division of Labor Standards, United States Department of Labor*

IN THE Third Conference of American States Members of the International Labor Office representatives of eighteen countries in the Western Hemisphere were on hand to hear President Ávila Camacho's address of welcome at the opening session in Mexico City on April 1, 1946.

The postwar problem of inflation and the needed expansion of social security, both of major importance to all of the participating countries, had been high-lighted in the International Labor Office Director's report, which traditionally in these meetings provides the keynote for detailed discussion. Stressed also in Director Phelan's report were topics of particular application to the Latin American States. One of these was the matter of industrialization in order to raise wage and living standards; another was the economic improvement of the Indian groups, reputedly comprising 20,000,000 persons, or one-seventh of Latin America's population. Of vital importance to the Latin American participants also was the subject of freedom of labor—the right to organize and function without political interference or domination. This theme prompted more discussion in both committee and plenary sessions than any other problem. How serious was the concern of some of the Latin American delegates about this freedom was shown by an effort to write into a conference resolution a provision giving labor leaders immunity from arrest comparable to the privilege accorded members

of Congress in this country. This suggestion, however, was not adopted.

Of eighteen countries represented at the Conference—sixteen by full tripartite delegations (representatives of government, employers, and labor),<sup>1</sup> two by official observers<sup>2</sup>—only the United States and Canada were non-Latin. Naturally, therefore, delegates from south of the Rio Grande supplied the major share of the platform oratory and committee-room discussion. Vigorously articulate in the general sessions, though less active in committee work, was Vicente Lombardo Toledano, the president of the Confederación de Trabajadores de la América Latina (CTAL), Mexican labor leader and former college professor. In leading off the discussion of the Director's report, Lombardo Toledano requested and was granted dispensation from the fifteen-minute limitation on speeches. He then delivered a two and one-quarter hour address without reference to notes or manuscript. Highlighted in his noteworthy oratorical effort was a plea for industrialization of the Latin American countries and a demand for the economic and social relief of native Indian groups.

Lombardo Toledano also spearheaded a move to bar the Argentine worker delegates from participation in conference pro-

<sup>1</sup> Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Canada.

<sup>2</sup> El Salvador and Paraguay.

ceedings on the ground that they were not selected or recommended by a free and representative labor organization. Although this charge was forcefully denied by Argentine spokesmen in the plenary sessions, the fight nevertheless continued for more than a week in the daily caucuses of the worker delegates. Finally it was settled—the Argentine delegation being given full participation in the conference. Nevertheless, the workers group denied the Argentine delegates admittance to the joint caucus sessions. For the record it should be stated that the United States delegates did not oppose the seating of the Argentine group.

In speaking to the Director's report, a daily feature of the plenary sessions, the delegates were afforded a wide selection of subject matter, because the report itself was a rather comprehensive treatise upon economic and social problems and conditions. Only occasionally was it necessary for the Permanent Chairman, Labor Minister Trujillo Gurria, to warn the speakers that they must confine their comments and remarks to the subjects touched upon in the Director's Report.

All the participating delegations voiced their views upon one or more of the major topics projected in the Director's report. As a matter of fact, in most instances spokesmen for all three groups in the tripartite delegations took the platform during the plenary sessions. Not until the day before the conference adjournment did this part of the program conclude. Although this established procedure was time-consuming, particularly because of necessary oral translations of the speeches, nevertheless it provided a realistic medium for the exchange of views upon current problems and for the graphic portrayal of conditions existing in the different jurisdictions.

In the Mexico City conference, as in

previous inter-American meetings of the ILO, the most concrete and direct action was developed through technical committee sessions. Three of these committees were set up in connection with the Third Conference; namely, industrial relations, labor inspection, and vocational education.

As was fully anticipated, in view of the none too firmly established position of organized labor in Latin America, the Committee on Industrial Relations witnessed the most lively discussion and the greatest clash of viewpoints. Approach to agreement upon a resolution which might be looked upon as a basic charter in this field was made particularly difficult by reason of the differing status of labor in various American countries and certain fundamental differences in methods of adjusting labor grievances and regulating unions.

Using suggested material prepared in advance by International Labor Office technicians as a basis for discussion, the Industrial Relations Committee labored valiantly at the task of reconciling the often-conflicting views of management, labor, and government delegates in an attempt to adapt its recommendations to the varying practices, traditions, and conditions obtaining in the member States. Voted down were employer-sponsored proposals for compulsory arbitration; for restriction or limitation of closed shop agreements; for specific statutory prohibition of "intimidation and coercion" by unions. The last two of these proposals, having been rejected in committee session, were later taken to the conference floor by employer delegates. Here too they were defeated through the combined opposition of government and labor representatives.

The report on industrial relations as finally adopted by the conference sets

forth a number of recommendations of fundamental nature which may well be accepted as a basic charter on the subject. The salient features of the instrument provide, among other things, for:

1. Complete freedom of employers and workers, without distinction as to sex, race, color, creed, or nationality, to form organizations of their own choosing without specific authorization from government, these organizations not to be subject to dissolution by administrative order.

2. The right to organize and bargain collectively, with safeguards against discharge of workers because of union membership or refusal to join a union; the requirement that employers bargain in good faith; and adequate machinery to enforce these rights.

3. Voluntary conciliation and voluntary arbitration with adequate machinery provided in both instances, parties to a dispute being recommended to refrain from strikes or lockouts during conciliation efforts.

4. The application of a collective agreement to all workers in the operation; the extension of collective agreements on a regional or industry basis only in those countries where "such extension is provided for by national laws or regulations."

Less involved in controversy or clash of opinion were the deliberations of the Committee on Labor Inspection, although the exchange of detailed experiences and conditions disclosed a number of fundamental differences in respect to scope of authority and operating methods in the several republics. For example, in several Latin American countries factory inspectors serve also as conciliators or official adjusters of labor grievances and complaints. The deliberations of the committee revealed strikingly similar problems in a number of basically important matters, such as lack of qualification standards for inspectors, political preference in appointments to these posts, insecurity of tenure, and absence of training facilities. These evidences of incompleteness or inefficiency in regard to inspectorates were not confined to the Latin American countries. They are admittedly duplicated in a number of

our states, which in this country have exclusive exercise of the police power over industrial working conditions.

The draft resolution on labor inspection as adopted unanimously by the conference pointed out that the effectiveness of laws for the protection of employed persons depends wholly on adequacy of administration. Among many detailed recommendations the report called for the selection of inspection personnel through competitive examinations; proper preliminary training before assignment to duty and periodic retraining thereafter; and salaries sufficient to attract competent persons possessing both practical and technical knowledge.

As one medium for increasing efficiency and broadening the experience of inspectors the report recommends the assignment of these technicians to visit other countries on an exchange arrangement. The committee report called attention to the need for more adequately financed administrative agencies, and for the centralization of all inspection authority and responsibility in a single governmental agency. With particular reference to the mingling of conciliation duties with regular inspection functions, such as obtains in several jurisdictions, the resolution urges abandonment of this practice as actually or potentially interfering with the competent performance of the primary duties of an inspector. It is significant that in the Labor Inspection Committee deliberations employer representatives were in complete agreement with practically all of the recommendations included in the report.

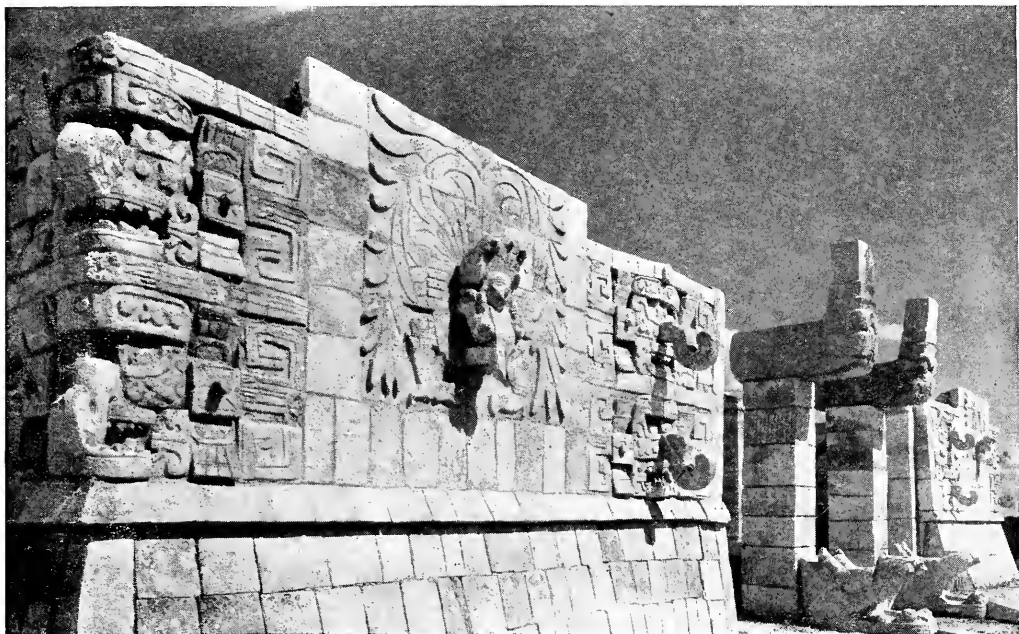
Vocational education being on the whole a non-controversial subject, the committee handling this subject had comparatively little difficulty in agreeing upon a report to the conference. This document pointed out the need for vocational train-

ing to be developed on a comprehensive national plan integrated with industrial and agricultural policies. Major recommendations called for the establishment of vocational guidance facilities; provision for vocational and educational training in specialized schools; establishment of apprenticeship standards under the direction of apprenticeship committees at national, state, or municipal level; in-plant training programs pointed to up-grading and promotion of trainees; special facilities for agricultural training; the training and retraining of adult workers; and special facilities for investigating training needs of partially disabled or handicapped persons, including children.

It is of course impossible to evaluate accurately the results of the Mexico conference in terms of concrete accomplishment. No one can reasonably expect that the adoption of agreed resolutions and reports will necessarily be promptly followed by their integration into legislation or administrative action in any consider-

able number of jurisdictions. But unquestionably there is great educational value in the interchange of ideas and the frank exchange of information as to existing conditions and problems. Certainly in terms of long-range objectives the meeting of the American States members of the ILO contributed substantially to unified progress in the broad field of industrial peace, security, and prosperity.

An incident indicative of the present relations between the United States and Latin America occurred on April 12 when a delegate from one of the Latin American countries arose during the morning session and proposed that the delegates attend in a body the memorial services for President Roosevelt held by the Permanent Committee of the Mexican Congress. In a two-hour ceremony in the congressional chamber the ex-President was referred to as the great leader of world democracy and lauded as the special friend of Latin America and author of the Good Neighbor Policy.



Courtesy of the Carnegie Institution

### MAYA RUINS AT CHICHÉN ITZÁ

The artistic heritage of the Mexican people is a rich legacy handed down even from pre-Columbian days.

## Bueno!

### A little word of international import

JEAN BANCROFT DE CAMP

A RECENT trip of four months, covering some twenty thousand miles on the Ferrocarriles Nacionales de México, revealed to the writer that there are many interesting and important aspects of the picture presented by this our closest Latin-American neighbor; but that in order fully to appreciate its vast panorama even the casual visitor should approach it with some understanding of its proper perspective.

There are many ways of describing Mexico, a land which permits of infinite

interpretation because of its geological characteristics, its racial variations, climatic extremes, political idiosyncrasies, and historical drama. It would require the combined knowledge of an historian and a scientist, the peculiar genius of an artist, and literary skill of high order to delineate upon paper the depth and brilliance of this particular jewel of the universe. The visual effect alone of Mexico, with the impact of racial contrasts, scenic grandeur, perplexing ex-



Photograph by D. R. Laidig and G. E. Fischer

#### A CORNER OF THE CATHEDRAL OF PUEBLA

Part of the architectural inheritance of colonial days.

tremes of beauty and harshness, and its wealth of resources versus a dismal poverty, bewilders, fascinates, or repels in response to the individual's intellect and emotions.

It has been said that to visit Mexico for

the first time is like listening to the opening bars of a great symphony, which lift one high on the wings of expectancy. In later visits the fulfillment of that expectancy is experienced in an increased admiration for, and improved understanding

of, our neighbor republic and its people.

Mexico is fast becoming a busy and crowded hostelry for the travel-minded, the majority of whom are our own North Americans. Cars from every state in the Union speed along its excellent highways; and every train headed south across the border is filled with curious and interested newcomers. This is all to the good, for Mexico has emerged from that strange Hollywood chrysalis in which it had so long been enveloped in the minds of many Americans, and is being revealed as a virile and progressive nation, standing upon the threshold of unlimited opportunity.

The traveller whose eyes are open to see will soon observe that there is much more to Mexico than gay woven baskets, vivid colorful sarapes, beautiful silver, and the ubiquitous tortilla. Unfortunately, how-

ever, the impressions of the average visitor are too often based upon his personal interests and habitual outlook, rather than upon intelligent consideration, and it is this inevitably limited and biased point of view that could be a potential danger to the growth of international amity. According to his attitude of receptive friendly interest or preconceived prejudice, his intelligent comprehension or ignorant appraisal, the traveller will return to his own country with some appreciation of Mexico and an increased respect for the principles of the Good Neighbor Policy, or with only a distorted picture of presently undeveloped resources and remediable poverty.

In the interests of mutual understanding and good will between nations, much depends upon the mental reaction of even the average visitor or tourist, whose impressions, either favorable or unfavorable,



Courtesy of Sigifredo H. Rodríguez

PUPILS OF THE JUSTO SIERRA SCHOOL IN MONTERREY  
A student demonstration of Pan American accord.





Photograph by Ernesto Galarza

### TRUCKING IN MEXICO—BETTER THAN A BURRO



MEXICAN PASTORAL  
A familiar scene in the State of Mexico.



of a country and its people, he does not hesitate to broadcast to neighbors, friends, and acquaintances, speaking, although absolutely unqualified to do so, as "one with authority." And since public opinion is merely the multiple of individual opinion, the individual's viewpoint assumes an importance in international relationship today which cannot be overlooked.

In a world growing more interdependent by the hour, it is vitally necessary for two such close neighbors to remain in accord. Most citizens of the United States pride themselves upon their knowledge and understanding of world problems, and it is true that under the pressure of world issues involving the future of mankind in general they are acquiring a less isolationist viewpoint. Thus it is a little surprising that their interpretation of the close-at-hand Mexican scene is still so frequently a medley of misunderstanding.

There are too many facets to the jewel of Mexico for the casual visitor to succeed in appraising it accurately. True appraisal is based upon knowledge and un-

derstanding, and few travellers come to Mexico with such mental preparation. Adequate clothing and funds to cope with climatic and financial problems are the accepted rule, but apparently little if any thought is given to preparation for the sudden transition into a mental environment which, as well as the physical, is sufficiently foreign to demand a certain adjustment of thought. To expect the average traveller to prepare himself by means of exhaustive research and study is of course unthinkable. But since so much depends upon the receptiveness of his attitude, whether he is to find himself enriched by his experience, or merely in possession of a little change from the spurious coinage of destructive criticism, and a false sense of superiority, it seems worth while to offer a few suggestions as how to benefit from so fortunate an opportunity, and to point out certain erroneous concepts which, if generally accepted, would mar the true picture presented by our neighbor republic.

It has often been remarked that at the border, where the customs officials care-

**MEXICAN POTTERY**  
Beauty is at the fingertips  
of the Mexican craftsman.



Photograph by Franklin E. Kozik



Photograph by Ernesto Galarza

A MEXICAN WITHOUT MUSICAL TALENT IS MORE RARE THAN A BIRD WITHOUT WINGS.

fully inspect one's baggage for contraband, they might well examine also the mental attitude of the would-be entrant. It might be advisable to post a few regulations such as: "All prejudice, racial, religious, political, and national must be checked at the border." Or: "Intolerance, ignorance, and discourtesy cannot be carried across the border." Of course this probably would eliminate a certain percentage of travellers, but the decrease in quantity would be offset by the increase in quality, and the mutual understanding and friendly relations of our two republics should be augmented by such a measure!

Continual depreciatory comparison with one's own country, a regrettable habit into which too many travellers fall immediately upon crossing any border, is not the key

to the appreciation and understanding of another country and its people. Actually, its immediate and only effect is to erect a wall of mutual antagonism. It must be remembered that good, to lesser or greater degree, according to our standard of comparison, exists in every land, in its people, its customs. To enter Mexico, or any other country, blinded by prejudice, or wearing glasses which magnify only the defects, is to assure oneself that one's vision will be limited. One must be alert and willing to see the good, and to regard the evil with the same easy indulgence with which one accepts it in one's own country. Not only in the case of Mexico is this tolerant attitude important, although our proximity makes a strong bond of inter-Americanism as necessary as it is desirable, but also in our relations with

the world it has become of prime importance that the Golden Rule be our more frequent gauge when measuring our fellow men.

Mexico is a land of contradictions and promise. Its people, who, like the peoples of most of our American Republics, represent several races, are admirable, intelligent, courageous, able, and, to borrow one of their own expressions, *muy simpático*, in spite of many untoward conditions that might discourage these qualities of spirit in the peoples of many other countries. Mexico has had a turbulent history. Its people have been exploited at various times by different conquerors, rulers, and governments to a degree happily unknown in our country by our people. Against great odds, the Mexican people have emerged from a tragic past into a day which promises to be bright and enduring. For thirty-six years, since 1910, Mexico has struggled to find its way out of a social, political, and industrial upheaval which had practically dismembered the country. Remarkable progress has been

made, and although Mexico is in its youth, as regards its industrial and social development, it is strong and lusty, and gives every indication of developing into a powerful adult.

Mexico's industrial revolution is attaining a momentum which eventually will sweep low standards of living into the dust of the past. In the outlying parts of the country a leisurely and tranquil pace of living still prevails, except where the great irrigation projects are bringing to life the sleeping wastes of drought-weary land. In certain localities the curtain is rolled back an hundred years or more; but in the cities there is a bustling energy which emphatically refutes any legend that the Mexican people are imbued with lethargy. They work long hours, and are filled with an animation and enthusiasm which seems to have seized hold of the future with a firm hand, determined to bring to pass the latent promise of a country so richly endowed with natural wealth, and a courageous and gifted people.

Criticism of certain problems in manage-

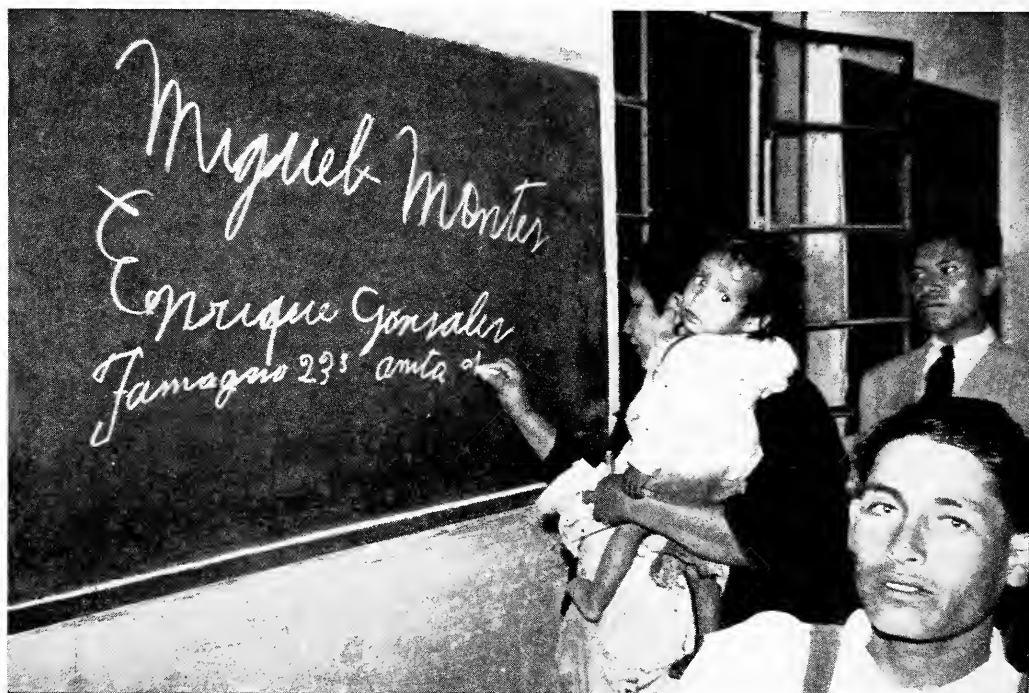


HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT ÁVILA CAMACHO, AT THE MEXICAN SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE.

ment and labor in Mexico . . . problems due to a labor policy which is proving a little indigestible . . . should always be tempered by tolerance and sympathy, since it is obvious to any observer that other countries are passing through similar periods of general upheaval which could easily justify caustic criticism. Likewise, when remarking the regrettably high rate of illiteracy in Mexico, where until comparatively recently little effort was made to bring education to the masses, it should not be overlooked that even in the United States of America, where every possible educational facility is presumably made available to all of its citizens, the draft exposed a deficiency that was little short of appalling. Even the inadequate sanitary facilities, which for far too great a proportion of the Mexican people are still nonexistent, should be condemned by the

outsider with restraint. For even in a country notoriously rich in modern plumbing features, the primitive equivalent is by no means extinct. And many Europeans not educated to think differently have long regarded certain sanitary niceties as an unnecessary affectation, and are not easily persuaded otherwise. One can see from the foregoing that there are always two sides to every question, and to appraise justly any picture one must gain the proper perspective. Someone has said: "There is too much condemnation in the world." Human nature never seems to outgrow an infantile delight in destruction, particularly destructive criticism.

The newcomer to Mexico will soon learn of a little custom which is pleasing, and to consider it might be profitable. When one answers the telephone one does not hear a voice say "Hello!" Nor, "Are you there?"



Courtesy of Eugene Ysita

#### THE MIRACLE OF EDUCATION

Learning to write her name—a first step in the anti-illiteracy campaign.

### A PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASS

Mexico's future would seem safe in the hands of such eager little pupils.



Photograph by Fritz Henle

But, "Bueno!" "Good!" Somehow this little word, "Bueno!" is indicative of the Mexican's attitude toward life in general. "Bueno! Our land is good! Our people are good! Our food, however little it may be sometimes, is good! Life is good!" Undoubtedly there is less sullenness and irritability of manner in Mexico than in many other countries. One can travel its length and breadth, and one will be impressed by the dignity, friendliness, courtesy, and gayety of the people, the majority of whom would appear to the casual observer to have little material reason for expressing any of these excellent qualities.

This little term "Bueno!", used on the telephone, in casual greeting, as an ejaculation, and as farewell, is a valuable index to the Mexican character. The

Mexican does not appear to give such weight to the bad side of a problem as he does to the good. As a matter of fact he is seldom interested in the bad side of anything, but seems perpetually convinced that everything will work out for the best. Unfortunately, at times this characteristic appears to have a tendency to induce a spirit of procrastination, facetiously referred to by foreigners as the "mañana complex." But its principle of optimism is not one to be scorned. It is indeed the principle underlying the subtle rebuke given to defeatism in the old Persian proverb: "When the King says at noonday, It is night; the Wise Man saith, Behold the Stars!"

The gentle, easy-going Mexican temperament is too often regarded as indolent,



AVENIDA JUÁREZ, MEXICO CITY

With its modern architecture, this beautiful avenue symbolizes Mexico's turning away from the past.

inefficient, and unproductive by the average foreigner. Actually, the evidence of a strong steady current of progressive and active thought in Mexico today is too prevalent for the old familiar appellation of *Mañana Land* to be appropriate. Honesty, integrity, and efficiency are a part of the better-type Mexican's character and influence his business methods just as much as they do our own or any man's, regardless of nationality. Moral and spiritual qualities are not circumscribed by national boundaries, but are universally expressed by men of true worth.

Even the casual visitor soon recognizes that courtesy, gentleness, and a gracious hospitality are an innate talent of the Mexican people, regardless of class distinction. In the solution of any problem, the basic difference between the Mexican and North American approach seems to be that North Americans generally choose the

shortest and plainest route to any given point; whereas the Mexican, less in bondage to a limited sense of time, prefers to reach the same destination a little later, if need be, by way of a path enhanced by some measure of graceful if unnecessary elaboration.

Artistic yet practical; gentle but courageous; patient with hope . . . a very different attitude from a fatalistic resignation . . . proud, intelligent, sensitive, and sympathetic. These are some of the characteristics of the Mexican people which cannot escape the notice of even the tourist; and if remembered will help in strengthening our understanding of our Mexican neighbor.

Many excellent books have been written about Mexico and its people.<sup>1</sup> Travel books, humorous and serious, fill the

<sup>1</sup> For a brief list of books on Mexico see page 415.—EDITOR.

shelves. Scholarly and valuable textbooks are available to those desiring a more intensive study. And our universities, with their admirable student-exchange systems, promote and develop mutual respect and understanding between our two republics.

In the preface to his book, *Mexico and Its Heritage*, Ernest Gruening says: "International good-will and peace are involved in the relations of the United States with Mexico, Latin America's outpost. If the two countries are to be truly neighborly,

knowledge and more knowledge are requisite."

Centuries ago, a wise ruler who placed a value far exceeding the wealth of any kingdom upon its possession urged men to acquire knowledge, and "with all thy getting, get understanding."

Knowledge, understanding, tolerance. These are the three essentials of international good will. Thus equipped, we shall be ready to reply to our Mexican brother's greeting with an equally sincere and acceptable "Bueno!"





## Poços de Caldas,



Courtesy of Brazilian Information Bureau



The most elegant of Brazilian spas is Poços de Caldas, a small city in the State of Minas Gerais, about 275 miles from Rio de Janeiro. It lies at an altitude of 3900 feet among blue mountains, and has been known at home and abroad as a watering place for nearly sixty years. Fine hotels, wide avenues, pleasant parks, and handsome residences give the town an attractive aspect. Radio-active hot springs, mud baths, and sulphur waters offer healing treatment. The town is popular



## a Brazilian Spa



with both sick and well, and visitors come from neighboring countries as well as from Brazil to enjoy the baths and the many diversions. The climate is mild but bracing. In the country round about grow coffee, corn, figs, and grapes. The light local vintages are well esteemed. Fruit pastes are manufactured in quantity, and dairying is another regional industry. As in other sections of Minas Gerais, mining is increasing.

# Pan American Day in San Francisco

MARION WINSTON JENKINS

*Office of Information and Reception (San Francisco), Department of State*

FOLLOWING the proclamation of President Truman, Governor Earl Warren proclaimed April 14 Pan American Day in California. "The day this year," he said, "finds the Americas proud of their part in the restoration of peace to the world and more united and more determined than ever before that this hard-won peace shall be lasting."

In a similar proclamation, Mayor Roger D. Lapham of San Francisco called upon all civic associations, schools, churches, and citizens generally to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and to attend the exercises in the rotunda of the City Hall.

In accordance with the Mayor's proclamation, Herbert W. Clark, President of the Pan American Society (San Francisco Chapter), called a meeting of the San Francisco Bay Area Pan American organizations devoted to cultivating inter-American understanding and friendship. As a result of this meeting, the Pan American Day Joint Committee was formed, with Mr. Clark as Chairman.

Seven San Francisco Bay Area organizations, *Círculo Español*, *Círculo Hispanoamericano*, *El Buen Vecino*, *Los Pan-americanistas*, *Pan American Association, Inc.*, *Pan American League* (San Francisco Branch), *Pan American Medical Association*, *Pan American Society* (San Francisco Chapter), and *Unión de Habla Española*, represented by their presidents, formed the Joint Committee with the purpose of coordinating their efforts to make this year's observance of Pan

American Day a significant occasion in San Francisco.

The Joint Committee, announced Mr. Clark, was "working for a better understanding and respect for our neighbors, and for hemisphere unity, which is an essential, and perhaps the most promising part of world unity. We welcome all constructive work and help by individuals and by groups toward this end."

The Committee invited schools, libraries, theaters, radio stations, stores, and industries to prepare displays and programs with Pan American themes to be featured during the week of April 14. It held a luncheon at the Press Club on April 6, inviting news editors and program directors of all the local radio stations to formulate plans for special programs. Mr. Clark further announced that representatives of the Department of State and of military and civic organizations were cooperating to make Pan American Day ceremonies to be held in the City Hall a memorable event.

Many cultural and civic groups commemorated Pan American Day in San Francisco. Mills College in Oakland observed the day with a special program including an address by Dr. Esther Allen Gaw, former Dean of Women at Ohio State University. The *San Francisco State Teachers' Journal* featured an article by Mrs. Oliver Remick Grant entitled *Our Cultural Debt to Latin America*.

A special Pan American Day purse was offered on the racing program of the California Jockey Club at Bay Meadows on April 13. Consuls of Latin American



Courtesy of William Fisher

#### PAN AMERICAN DAY JOINT COMMITTEE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Representatives of seven Bay Area organizations devoted to inter-American relations formed a committee on the 1946 commemoration of the day. Herbert W. Clark, the chairman, occupies the central place at the table.

countries and officials of Pan American societies were especially invited to attend the races that day.

A banquet was held at the Hotel de Anza in San Jose on April 11 by the "Good Neighbors" of San Jose and Santa Clara county. The Soroptimist Club had a luncheon at the St. Francis Hotel at which Dr. Esther Allen Gaw spoke again.

The San Francisco Museum of Art prepared a special program on the "Know Your World" series and arranged a number of important exhibitions and individual works by Latin American artists.

At the luncheon meeting of the Foreign Trade Association of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce at the Fairmont Hotel on April 15, the members of the Latin American Consular Association were guests. William L. Montgomery, President of the Foreign Trade Association, presided.

Clifton Krowl, Chairman of the World Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, reviewed the history of the Pan American Union, and stressed the fact that consuls of the United States and other American republics have the responsibility for interpreting their countries to the nations to which they are accredited. Dr. José E. Aybar, Consul General of the Dominican Republic responded. "The American Continent," he said, "has assumed the obligation imposed on it by destiny. This is the mission of sustaining and developing the legacy of culture and civilization in this difficult period through which mankind is now passing."

The presidents and representatives of the organizations forming the Pan American Day Joint Committee each took charge of different activities in connection with the celebration.

The Pan American League, San Francisco Branch, through its president Mrs. George M. Kohler and a committee of five members, solicited the cooperation of leading banks, steamship companies, airlines, railroads and stores to feature the Pan American theme in exhibits and window displays. Included in the material were exhibits loaned by a number of the Latin American consuls and by individuals who have outstanding collections.

Forty organizations prepared window displays, and the beautiful commercial and cultural exhibits, together with the colorful flags of the twenty-one American Republics, added a vivid note to the business and shopping districts.

The Panamericanistas, through their President José García, were in charge of theater publicity and of the distribution of Pan American Day posters. They were

assisted in the distribution of posters by the Boy Scouts.

The organization called El Buen Vecino, through its President O. K. Cushing and a committee of five members, was in charge of other publicity. Generous allowance of radio time was contributed by the local stations and excellent cooperation given by the press. Accounts of local activities, radio broadcasts, and editorials kept the public constantly mindful of the importance of Pan American unity.

In addition to broadcasts over nine Bay Area stations by members of the Joint Committee, Stuart R. Ward's California Council Table, Station KSFO, the State's oldest round table discussion program, devoted an entire period to the theme of Pan Americanism in today's world.

Merrill C. Phillips, broadcast manager of United Network, programmed by the



Courtesy of William Fisher

#### SCHOOL CHILDREN AT THE CITY HALL CEREMONIES

Twenty-one nations were represented at the ceremonies addressed by Mayor Lapham.



Courtesy of William Fisher

#### A PAN AMERICAN DAY STORE WINDOW

The Guatemalan exhibit was lent by Mrs. H. Hemmen.

International Broadcasting Division of the Department of State, released on a special rebroadcast San Francisco's Pan American Day ceremonies at the City Hall, including the addresses made by the various dignitaries participating. The program also referred to the dinner given by the Joint Committee on April 12 in honor of Latin American students in universities and colleges in the San Francisco Bay area. It was released over the full facilities of the United Network, consisting of five powerful international shortwave stations—KCBA, KCBF, KNBA, KNBI, and KWID.

The Círculo Hispanoamericano de San

Francisco, through its president, Mrs. A. S. Musante, and a committee of four members, coordinated the participation of school children in the observance of Pan American Day. The San Francisco Recreation Department sent two hundred public school children in picturesque Latin American costumes to take part in the ceremonies at the City Hall. Boy Scouts acted as ushers and Girl Scouts distributed souvenir booklets to all children attending the program. The Círculo Hispanoamericano also arranged beautiful decorations of spring flowers, flags, and banners in the Colonial Ball Room of the St. Francis Hotel for the dinner given in honor of Latin

American students on Friday, April 12.

The Pan American Association, Inc. of Oakland and the East Bay, through its President Professor T. Harper Goodspeed and a committee of members, invited the Latin American consuls to speak on Pan American themes for civic organizations throughout Northern California.

In observance of Pan American Day and in honor of members of the Latin American consular corps and their wives, the Pan American Association held a reception on Sunday afternoon, April 14, in the Faculty Club and under the spreading oaks of the beautiful Faculty Glade on the University of California campus in Berkeley. Among the three hundred guests attending were the Mayor of Oakland, Herbert L. Beach, and Mrs. Beach; the Mayor of Berkeley, Fitch W. Robertson, and Mrs. Robertson; civic leaders of Oakland and Alameda County, the presidents of Bay Area universities, and the presidents of eight Pan American organizations. Latin American music was played at intervals during the afternoon by soloists appearing with the Oakland Symphony and San Francisco Symphony orchestras.

The *Círculo Español*, through its president Mrs. Camille da Valle and a committee of four members, was in charge of arrangements for the dinner given in honor of all the Latin American students in colleges and universities in the San Francisco Bay Area by the organizations represented on the Pan American Day Joint Committee. The dinner was held in the Colonial Ball Room of the St. Francis Hotel on April 12. Response to invitations was so great that many members of the participating organizations could not be accommodated. Acting as hosts to the one hundred seven Latin American students were forty organizations and individuals of San Francisco and the Bay Area. Entertainment was provided

throughout the dinner by singers of Spanish American songs, and other music by a marimba orchestra.

Herbert W. Clark, chairman, acted as toastmaster, introducing Roger D. Lapham, Mayor of San Francisco, who was the honor guest and speaker of the evening. Mr. Clark read lengthy telegrams received from the Honorable Spruille Braden, Assistant Secretary of State; the Honorable L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union; and the Honorable Earl Warren, Governor of California, who was prevented from attending by State business.

Fernando Caballero Marsal, of the Republic of Paraguay, a brilliant young student awarded a fellowship at the University of California through the co-operation of the University and the Department of State, was chosen to speak on behalf of the Latin American students. Señor Caballero's eloquence and sincerity brought a warm response from the three hundred guests present when he told them what an education in the United States has meant to one hundred and seven Latin American scholars in Bay Area colleges and universities.

"Though we come from many countries," Señor Caballero said, "we are all one in our faith in the destiny of the Americas, and in our eager desire and determination for the universal peace. . . . We shall never forget this busy, enriching, and challenging American interlude in our young lives, for we have fallen in love with your beautiful and generous America. It is our sincere hope that we have also given something in return. . . . The United States has now a hundred unofficial, well informed ambassadors of good will to Latin America in this area alone."

The Pan American Society, San Francisco Chapter, through Herbert W. Clark, its president, William Fisher, its secretary,

and an assistant committee, was in charge of the Pan American Day ceremonies in the rotunda of the City Hall. They were held on Saturday morning April 13 as the fourteenth fell on a Sunday.

Against a background of flags of the twenty-one American Republics, two hundred school children, accompanied by the San Francisco Municipal Orchestra, sang national anthems. On the speaker's platform were seated William K. Romero of the Pan American Society, who presided; Herbert W. Clark, Chairman of the Pan American Day Joint Committee; the Honorable Roger D. Lapham, Mayor of San Francisco; Dr. Mario Aráoz-Levy, Consul General of Bolivia; J. S. Curran, past president of the Pan American Society; George W. Kemper, President of the San Francisco Library Commission; and Lawrence J. Clark, San Francisco City Librarian. Consuls of the twenty Latin American Republics, General Stilwell and Admiral Wright with members of their staffs, civic and business leaders, and many others, attended the ceremonies.

Included in the program was the presentation to the city of a gift of books from the government of El Salvador, and of a collection of books on Latin America offered by Ulpiano Borja on behalf of Luis Silver. Both were received by George K. Kemper on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library.

A medal was presented to J. S. Curran, 1945 President of the Pan American Society, for services in the cause of Pan Americanism. The Honorable Mario Aráoz-Levy spoke on behalf of the Latin American Consular Association, and Herbert W. Clark on behalf of the Pan American Society. A high-light of the ceremonies was Mayor Lapham's address, which emphasized the importance of the success of the United Nations to the future of Pan America.

The Mayor declared: "It would be the essence of hypocrisy to pay tribute to these heroes [of the war] and to the principles for which they fought and died unless we seek to effectuate these principles with deeds. We must destroy every force in all lands not dedicated to these principles. If we fail to make a success of the United Nations in the administration of all its parts, Pan Americanism is endangered. Remember if this movement fails, we shall not ask for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee."

At the close of the ceremonies a reception was held by Mayor Lapham in his offices at the City Hall in honor of the Latin American consuls.

Thus in many ways the observance of Pan American Day made all thoughtful San Franciscans conscious that it is possible for nations to live together in continuing cooperation and friendship.



# Postwar Measures in the American Republics—VI

Compiled by Dorothy M. Tercero<sup>1</sup>

## *Industrial development*

THROUGH a law approved on October 17, 1945, offering special guarantees to foreign capital, *Bolivia* announced its readiness to absorb capital displaced by the war and in search of new fields of investment where stability and satisfactory returns are assured. The law is a timely one and should prove of great importance to the economic and industrial future of the country. It aims ultimately to increase the national wealth, for to enjoy its guarantees and security, the incoming foreign capital must be invested in specified basic industries which have not yet reached a high stage of development in Bolivia. To receive the law's benefits, the foreign capital must amount to at least 1 million bolivianos (1 boliviano equals \$0.0236 U. S. cy.) if invested in agriculture, stock raising, and their derivative industries, and 5 million or more bolivianos if invested in the production of electric power; manufacturing industries; minerals not previously exploited or exported, or the mining and exportation of which has cut no appreciable figure in the national economy; communication routes; low-cost housing; credit institutions; the development of other minerals; the acquisition of domestic bonds, certificates, and mortgages; and foreign and domestic trade. The incorporation of foreign capital must be accomplished in one of two ways, or

in both ways simultaneously: through the sale of foreign exchange to the Central Bank of Bolivia at the official purchase price; and through the importation of machinery or materials for the establishment or enlargement of industries, the construction of communication routes, or low-cost housing projects.

The profits earned by the capital so invested in the country may be retired in the same manner in which they were contributed, or in any other way, to an annual proportion of 15 percent of total profits; and the capital investment may be amortized in annual amounts of 20 or 30 percent, according to the kind of investment. These operations will be conducted through the Central Bank of Bolivia. Once the capital is amortized, all of the business assets that remain in the country, whether in cash, machinery, installations, raw materials, manufactured stocks, and other implements, as well as any balances the enterprise may possess abroad, will be considered as national capital. (*El Diario*, La Paz, October 26, 1945.)

Directed toward stimulating the establishment of new industries for preparing *Haiti's* agricultural products for export, Decree-Law No. 589 of December 26, 1945, authorized import duty exemptions during the next five years on new machinery and equipment brought into the country for that purpose, providing the total value is not less than 100,000 gourdes (the gourde equals \$0.20 U. S. cy.). Furthermore, all kinds of agricultural

<sup>1</sup> Assisted in research by Clara Cutler Chapin and Mary G. Reynolds.



products not previously exported, which are processed for export under this law, will be exempted from payment of export duties during the next ten years. (*Le Moniteur*, January 3, 1946.)

*Argentina* is looking toward development of its rubber industry. In accordance with a tripartite agreement signed May 2, 1945, by the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, and the United States, a commission of Argentine technicians was sent to the United States to study synthetic rubber manufacture. Upon the commission's return to Argentina, its members were appointed by Presidential Decree No. 29,531 of November 23, 1945, as a Technical Advisory Commission for the rubber industry, in order that they may give the industry the benefits of the knowledge gained on their study mission. (*Boletín Oficial*, November 28, 1945.) The agreement just cited provided, in addition to plans for the study mission, for the supply by Brazil and the United States to Argentina of 3,000 tires and tubes and 1,000 metric tons of synthetic rubber for manufacture in Argentina.

In *Mexico*, where the development of industry of all kinds, facilitated by numerous special official measures, is progressing with amazing rapidity, recent new safety and health regulations for industry are of interest. The new regulations, published in the *Diario Oficial* of February 13, 1946, replace those of October 9, 1934, the application of which had become obsolete in view of changes, improvements, and development of industry in general. The new regulations include not only industrial, commercial, and agricultural establishments, but also family workshops, small industries, and home work. They apply to general working conditions such as space, lighting, temperature, fresh air, noise, sanitary facilities, drinking water, protective clothing and other safety equip-

ment, seats for workers, dining rooms, rooms where mothers may nurse their infants—all these being regulated carefully to guarantee the health of the workers as far as possible.

Other sections of the regulations refer to medical services. In enterprises whose number of workers exceeds 100, doctors must be regularly employed, not only to give attention to ailing workers but also to superintend the general health conditions of the establishment and collaborate in health education work, teaching the workers how to avoid labor accidents and how otherwise to take care of their health. In fact, the regulations require such doctors to give at least one lecture per month before the workers on health topics. For miners periodic X-ray examinations of the lungs are also made compulsory. So also is the establishment of Permanent Safety and Health Commissions in each labor center, charged with superintending compliance with the regulations, cooperating with inspectors, and helping to obtain the cooperation of both labor and management in attaining strict observance of the regulations.

A National Food and Nutrition Board was established in *Peru* on December 17, 1945 (Law No. 10,325, *El Peruano*, January 24, 1946). The Board will make studies and formulate a national food production plan designed to achieve a maximum production of the foodstuffs needed for domestic consumption. When the plan can be worked out and put into operation, not only will general nutrition standards of the nation be improved, but benefits should also accrue to agriculture, marketing, and the food processing industry.

#### *Atomic energy*

*Argentina*, like the rest of the world, is atom bomb conscious. The nation's first

formal step in the field of atomic energy was taken by Presidential Decree No. 34,427 of December 31, 1945, which authorized the Director General of Military Manufactures (*Fabricaciones Militares*) to establish a commission of scientists to prepare a program of action for exploitation of Argentine deposits of uranium and other radioactive minerals. The commission is charged with formulating a program for utilization of such substances in a manner that will most favorably serve the national interests. (*Boletín Oficial*, February 2, 1946.)

*Export, import, price, supply, funds, and other controls*

Export controls of one kind or another are still being applied in various countries, principally to prevent domestic shortages of food and other articles of prime necessity. In *Colombia*, for instance, Decree No. 715 of March 7, 1946 (*Diario Oficial*, March 13, 1946) required that both port and police authorities take all steps necessary to prevent the illegal exportation of sugar, authorizing them to seize sugar cargoes being sent abroad. By means of a decree of March 22, 1946, *Uruguay* prohibited until further notice the exportation of chickens in any form or any method of preparation. The only exception to this embargo is the provision of chickens to ships docking in Uruguayan harbors, and even such deliveries may be made only if authorized by the Ministry of Industries and Labor. Another Uruguayan decree, dated March 20, 1946, also required all dealers and industrialists to make sworn declarations to the National Supply Commission regarding their purchases and wholesale sales of tomato extract during the crop years 1945 and 1946. This information is required in order that the exportable surplus of tomato extract may be determined. (*Diario Oficial*, March 29,

1946, and March 28, 1946, respectively.)

*Ecuador*, on the other hand, has recently found itself in the position of having enough rice on hand to supply domestic demands and to permit the exportation of as much as 2,500 tons. The exportation will serve a double purpose: it will dispose of the surplus and at the same time give the country exchange for purchases abroad. (Decree No. 122, *Registro Oficial*, January 31, 1946.)

On March 6, 1946, the President of *Uruguay* called a halt to the exportation of thread, yarn, and textiles of wool, cotton, and mixtures thereof, until such time as regulations could be established that would first assure home requirements. However, a later decree was approved on March 20, 1946, designed to take care of pending export commitments. It provided that until regulations could be issued, the Export and Import Control Office might authorize the exportation of wool, cotton, and mixed yarns and textiles in cases where the export contract had been entered into before March 7, 1946. (*Diario Oficial*, April 6, 1946.)

When the gasoline shortages first arose with the outbreak of the war, some South American nations, notably *Uruguay* and *Brazil*, met the situation by requiring the installation of gasogenes (wood, charcoal, or coal burning apparatus for generating power) in motor vehicles. Bus services in *Uruguay* were especially required to install gasogenes in order to remain in operation. Now, however, that the sale and use of gasoline is no longer restricted, an Executive Resolution of March 1, 1946 (*Diario Oficial*, March 15, 1946) authorized buses to get rid of their gasogenes and to revert to gasoline fuel—which no doubt was regarded as a welcome bit of news by the bus companies. Tires for passenger vehicles were also released for unrestricted sale in *Uruguay*, and certificates of neces-

sity are no longer required. Maximum wholesale and retail prices for tires, however, are still subject to control, new ones having been fixed by a decree of February 22, 1946. (*Diario Oficial*, February 28, 1946.)

Another Uruguayan measure of importance to both wheat raisers and millers was Decree No. 125 of February 5, 1946 (*Diario Oficial*, February 15, 1946). It prohibited the milling of wheat that is fit for use as seed. The Official Seed Distribution Service is authorized to examine all grain in storage and to set aside any portion deemed suitable for seed. No wheat may be milled or otherwise disposed of until after it is examined. The over-all purpose of the decree is to assure, and to increase if possible, the area sown to wheat, in order to bring production up to domestic wheat requirements.

In view of the fact that the end of the war has somewhat diminished the difficulties of importing certain articles, *El Salvador*, by Legislative Decree No. 275, approved December 20, 1945, abolished its Committee on Economic Coordination. The Ministry of Economy, however, still has authority to superintend the equitable distribution of certain articles; among these, for one example, is tallow used in the manufacture of soap (*Diario Oficial*, December 26, 1945).

Of a different nature, but still a restriction of sorts, is the extension for another year of *Argentina's* excess profits tax on industry, decreed on January 19, 1946 (No. 1,820, *Boletín Oficial*, January 29, 1946). The tax was first levied on December 31, 1943, effective for three years (Decree No. 18,230), and its application was amended and regulated by two additional decrees dated August 18, 1944 (Nos. 21,702 and 21,703). The reason for extension of the tax, as given in the preamble of the new decree, was that the social and

economic conditions that motivated the tax in the beginning have not yet sufficiently changed to justify letting it lapse.

In view of the modification of United States wartime restrictions on the circulation of its currency and coin abroad, a legislative decree in *Ecuador* repealed Decree No. 1342 of August 12, 1942, which prohibited the importation or exportation of United States money and ordered persons possessing it to turn it over to the Central Bank of Ecuador. The new decree, approved January 8, 1946 (*Registro Oficial*, January 14, 1946), authorized the Central Bank to buy and sell United States money, both currency and coin, subject only to existing laws and regulations concerning foreign exchange and any further regulations that the Ministry of Economy may issue.

In *Colombia* the Government issued comprehensive new provisions regarding international exchange (Decree No. 568 of February 20, 1946, *Diario Oficial*, February 27, 1946). Aimed at adjusting national legislation regarding international exchange operations to harmonize with the Bretton Woods Monetary Agreements, the new law unifies, clarifies, and simplifies existing provisions. Among its principal features are the following: All international exchange negotiations require the written permission of the Office of Exchange, Import, and Export Control. Operations that involve the exit of capital will be approved without restriction, if the Ministry of the Treasury and Public Credit considers that such exits should not be limited or prohibited for national economic reasons. However, the Office of Exchange, Import, and Export Control is authorized to restrict international payments in certain specified cases. To facilitate international exchange, the tax of 5 centavos per dollar, levied in 1940 by Legislative Decree No. 2078, is abolished,

and to make up for the loss in state revenue, the stamp tax on international exchange paper is increased. Operations of government (state and local), the Bank of the Republic, and diplomatic and consular representatives are exempted from the stamp tax.

Exports and imports may be made with the guarantee that the resultant foreign exchange will be sold to the Bank of the Republic or another authorized bank. Petroleum exports are excepted from these provisions, but the Government reserves the right to require the return to the country of one-fourth of the money gained by such exports in case the condition of the national balance of payments makes such return advisable. All imports of merchandise into the republic, whether by parcel post, air express, or any other method, require a previous permit from the Office of Exchange, Import, and Export Control, and on merchandise valued at more than 1,000 pesos (1 Colombian peso equals \$0.5698 U. S. cy.), a consular invoice is required.

The duties of the Office of Exchange, Import, and Export Control are also defined in the new decree, as follows: granting permits for and regulating international exchange negotiations; regulating the importation of foreign capital in accordance with the need for or economic desirability of such capital; issuing import and export licenses; fixing the time periods within which use must be made, against approved requisitions, of negotiable instruments issued by the Bank of the Republic for foreign money; regulating the importation and exportation of domestic funds; and regulating trade in gold and silver.

#### *Alien enemies and enemy property*

The Chief Executive of *Guatemala* approved an important resolution on March

12, 1946, pertaining to expropriated enemy property. The resolution states that all properties, including real estate in general, commercial and industrial establishments, bonds, shares, stocks, and liens on real estate held by individuals or juristic persons on the Proclaimed Lists, became the property of the nation on the date of sequestration. In consequence, funds resulting from such properties, now on deposit in the Central Bank of Guatemala, are to be turned over by the Bank to the national treasury. Certain frozen bank deposits not included in the foregoing provision will remain in custody of the Bank until their legal status is determined in accordance with the peace treaties yet to be consummated. Pensions to which some of the persons on the Proclaimed Lists have a right will be covered in the future by the Alien Property Department and charged against certain indemnification funds in accordance with previous legislation. (*Diario de Centro América*, March 12, 1946.)

Another Guatemalan executive resolution, dated February 27, 1946, removed wartime restrictions against Italian nationals, except in specified cases where it is considered advisable for the restrictions to continue in effect. (*Diario de Centro América*, March 2, 1946.)

On February 23, 1946, *Colombia*, too, by means of Executive Resolution No. 37, made effective the rights of the nation to the properties of German real or juristic persons, as provided for in Law No. 39 of December 14, 1945 (see BULLETIN, June 1946, p. 342). These properties are being held in trust until such time as the Government itself can directly take them over, their administration being vested in the Stabilization Fund of the Bank of the Republic. The latter is given authority to sell the properties as necessary, to meet the unemployment claims of workers or any other claims pending against the proper-

ties in question. (*Diario Oficial*, March 7, 1946.)

### *Veterans of World War II*

*Brazil*, one of the two Latin American nations—Mexico being the other—that sent fighting forces abroad during the war, recently adopted various measures pertaining to veterans of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force which fought in Italy. Two such decree-laws were approved on January 23, 1946. One pertained to pensions for the survivors of soldiers killed in action or who died from other causes while in Italy, or who may later die from injuries or illness caused by their war service. An interesting feature of the decree is that soldiers who died in action, as a result of wounds received from enemy action, or as a result of illnesses or accidents suffered in line of duty, are to receive post-mortem promotion to the next higher grade or rank, on which pensions for their survivors will be based. Those who died in Italy from any other cause will not receive the promotions, and their families' pensions will therefore be based on the rate of pay the soldier was receiving at the time of death. The Government, however, will contribute whatever is necessary to provide houses for the families of deceased soldiers, and their minor children are to be assured an education at government expense.

The second decree-law pertains to disabled veterans of the Expeditionary Force. It, too, provides for promotions to the next higher grade, and for the payment of extra pensions, hospitalization, and rehabilitation for veterans, and free education for their minor children. Any veteran who later becomes disabled as a result of his war service will at such time receive the same type of benefits. Services of the partially disabled soldier will be utilized, however, in work in the Army which he

can do despite his disability. (Decree-laws Nos. 8794 and 8795, *Diário Oficial*, January 23, 1946.)

Still another decree-law (No. 8,917, approved January 26, 1946, *Diário Oficial*, January 29, 1946), provides for the education of the daughters of deceased soldiers and sailors at the Osório Foundation, and a special credit of 5 million cruzeiros was granted to the Foundation to cover the expenses. The Foundation, an educational home for orphan daughters of army and navy personnel, was established by Legislative Decree No. 4235 of January 4, 1921.

Decree-Law No. 8375 of December 14, 1945 (*Diário Oficial*, December 22, 1945), made provisions for the maintenance of the Brazilian Military Cemetery at Pistoja, Italy, and for the establishment and maintenance of a military guard at the cemetery.

### *Bilateral and multilateral measures*

*Bretton Woods Agreements.* On March 14, 1946, the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund and of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, known as the Bretton Woods Agreements, were signed and instruments of acceptance deposited by representatives of the Governments of El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Panama; and on the same date the instrument of acceptance of the Government of Cuba was deposited with the United States Department of State. This brought to a total of 38 the number of governments that have signed and accepted the Fund Agreement and a total of 37 for the Bank Agreement. Eighteen of these nations are American Republics, 17 of which have signed and accepted both Agreements, while Colombia has adhered to the Fund Agreement only. The three American Republics that have not joined the Fund and/or Bank are

Argentina, Haiti, and Venezuela. (See also BULLETIN, March 1946, pp. 179-80.) (*The Department of State Bulletin*, March 31, 1946.)

*Civil Aviation Documents.* Several nations, including various American Republics, have taken action in the past few months on the Interim Agreement on International Civil Aviation, the International Air Services Transit Agreement (Two Freedoms), the International Air Transport Agreement (Five Freedoms), and the Convention on International Civil Aviation, all of which were concluded at the International Civil Aviation Conference in Chicago on December 7, 1944.

On December 28, 1945, the instrument of ratification of the Convention and the acceptance of the Interim, Transit, and Transport Agreements were deposited in the Department of State on behalf of the Government of Nicaragua. On January 21, 1946, Paraguay's ratification of the Convention was deposited. On January 25, 1946, the Dominican Republic's ratification of the Convention and acceptance of the Interim and Transport Agreements were deposited. On March 28, 1946, the Department of State was informed of Venezuela's acceptance of the Interim, Transit and Transport Agreements; on April 8, 1946, Peru's ratification of the Convention was deposited; and on May 17, 1946, Bolivia accepted the Interim Agreement.

Thus far a total of 8 of the United Nations that participated in the Chicago Conference have deposited their instruments of ratification of the Convention: Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, and Turkey. Governments that have accepted the various Agreements total as follows: Interim Agreement, 45, the American Re-

publics included being Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, and Venezuela; Transit Agreement, 27, the American Republics being El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the United States, and Venezuela; and the Transport Agreement, 15, the American Republics being the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, the United States, and Venezuela. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, November 25, 1945; February 3, March 10, April 28, 1946.)

*North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement.* At the conclusion of the Second North American Regional Broadcasting Conference, which convened in Washington in February 1946, an Interim Agreement was signed on February 25, participated in by Canada, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom in respect of the Bahama Islands, Newfoundland, Mexico, and the United States. The Conference devoted its entire attention to standard band broadcasting, and the Interim Agreement continues for a period of three years the application, subject to certain modifications and additions, of the terms of the North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement which was due to expire on March 28, 1946. It was generally believed that the complexity of the broadcasting problem would not permit the negotiation of a new convention at that time, but the signing of the Interim Agreement will prevent the chaos that would have resulted from unregulated standard band broadcasting after expiration of the former Convention. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, March 10, 1946.)

# Pan American Union NOTES

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

### *Ninth International Conference of American States*

At a meeting of the Board on May 22, 1946, it was voted to postpone the Ninth International Conference of American States to 1947, the date to be set by agreement of the government of Colombia and the Governing Board.

### *Conference projects*

The Board received the extensive report of its special committee that analyzed the projects to be presented to the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security to be held at Rio de Janeiro. The text of these projects, submitted by the governments of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, the United States, and Uruguay, was appended to the report. The analysis was divided into the following sections: Preamble; Repudiation of War; Reaffir-

mation of the Principle of the Pacific Settlement of Disputes; Procedure of Pacific Settlement; Reciprocal Guarantees and Solidarity; Threats of Aggression: Measures to be taken; Aggression: Acts that Constitute Aggression; Aggression: Measures to be Taken; Organ of Security; Military Measures (Military Organization and Forces to be Furnished); Relation of the Treaty to the Charter of the United Nations; Various Provisions; Protocolary Articles. The report was referred to the governments, members of the Pan American Union, for their study and observations, which they are requested to transmit to the Union.

### *Juan B. Sacasa*

The Board passed unanimously a resolution of condolence on the death of Juan B. Sacasa, a former President of Nicaragua, who was for some years member of the Board.



# Pan American News

## *Inter-American military cooperation*

On May 6, 1946, President Harry S. Truman sent the following message to the Congress of the United States:

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

I submit herewith for the consideration of the Congress a bill to be entitled "The Inter-American Military Cooperation Act" authorizing a program of military collaboration with other American States including the training, organization and equipment of the armed forces of those countries. I recommend that the Congress give this bill its favorable consideration and enact it.

For several years our Army and Navy have maintained cordial relations of collaboration with the armed forces of other American republics within the framework of the Good Neighbor Policy. Under authorization of the Congress, military and naval training missions have been sent to various American republics.

During the recent war, even prior to Pearl Harbor this collaboration was intensively developed on the basis of inter-American undertakings for hemisphere defense. Training activities were expanded, and under the Lend-Lease Act limited amounts of military and naval equipment were made available to the other American republics as part of the hemisphere defense program. Forces from two of the American republics participated in combat overseas, and others joined in the defense of the shores and seas of the Americas at a time when the danger of invasion of our continents was all too great.

More recently the American republics have assumed new responsibilities, for their mutual defense and for the maintenance of peace, in the Act of Chapultepec and the Charter of the United Nations. The close collaboration of the American republics provided for in the Act of Chapultepec, the proposed treaty to be based upon that act, and other basic inter-American documents, makes it highly desirable to standardize military organization, training methods and equipment as has been recommended by the Inter-American Defense Board.

Under the bill transmitted herewith, the Army

and Navy, acting in conjunction with the Department of State, would be permitted to continue in the future a general program of collaboration with the armed forces of our sister republics with a view to facilitating the adoption of similar technical standards. Certain additional training activities, not covered by existing legislation, would be permitted. The President would also be authorized to transfer military and naval equipment to the Governments of other American States by sale or other method.

The collaboration authorized by the bill could be extended also to Canada, whose cooperation with the United States in matters affecting their common defense is of particular importance.

A special responsibility for leadership rests upon the United States in this matter because of the preponderant technical, economic and military resources of this country. There is a reasonable and limited purpose for which arms and military equipment can rightfully be made available to the other American States. This Government will not, I am sure, in any way approve of, nor will it participate in, the indiscriminate or unrestricted distribution of armaments, which would only contribute to a useless and burdensome armaments race. It does not desire that operations under this bill shall raise unnecessarily the quantitative level of armament in the American republics. To this end the bill specifies that amounts of non-standard material shall be sought in exchange for United States equipment.

It is my intention that any operations under this bill, which the Congress may authorize, shall be in every way consistent with the wording and spirit of the United Nations Charter. The bill has been drawn up primarily to enable the American nations to carry out their obligations to cooperate in the maintenance of inter-American peace and security under the Charter and the Act of Chapultepec, which is intended to be supplanted by a permanent inter-American treaty.

It is incumbent upon this Government to see that military developments in which we have a part are guided toward the maintenance of peace and security and that military and naval establishments are not encouraged beyond what security considerations require. In this connection the bill provides that operations thereunder are subject to any international agreement for the



regulation of armaments to which the United States may become a party. In addition provision will be made for continuing coordination of the actual operations under the legislation with developing plans and policy in the field of armaments regulation.

In executing this program it will be borne in mind, moreover, that it is the policy of this Government to encourage the establishment of sound economic conditions in the other American republics which will contribute to the improvement of living standards and the advancement of social and cultural welfare. Such conditions are a prerequisite to international peace and security. Operations under the proposed legislation will be conducted with full and constant awareness that no encouragement should be given to the imposition upon other people of any useless burden of armaments which would handicap the economic improvement which all countries so strongly desire.

The execution of the program authorized by the bill will also be guided by a determination to guard against placing weapons of war in the hands of any groups who may use them to oppose the peaceful and democratic principles to which the United States and other American nations have so often subscribed.

In entering into agreements with other American States for the provision of training and equipment as authorized by the bill, the purposes of this program will be made clear to each of the other Governments.

The bill was introduced the same day by Senator George.

### *Message of the President of El Salvador*

On February 15, 1946, President Salvador Castaneda Castro of El Salvador delivered his annual message to Congress, reporting on Government activities during the preceding twelve months.

Among the year's accomplishments that he stressed particularly were the enactment of the Law on Labor Conflicts, designed to prevent the paralyzing of activities essential to the public welfare, and the restoration of the Constitution of 1886

with amendments adjusting it to present-day needs (see BULLETIN, April 1946, p. 228).

In highlighting the economic events of the period under review, the President mentioned the law passed in November 1945 recognizing and readjusting the National External Debt of 1922; the signing of the Bretton Woods Agreements; the extension for one year dating from October 1, 1945, of the Inter-American Coffee Agreement; the exemption from duties of certain vital imported articles, including rice, cacao, sole leather, fat, ethyl alcohol, sugar, and Honduran coffee; and the lifting of controls on such articles as gasoline, kerosene, corn, and penicillin. In the budget for 1946 revenues were estimated at 37,317,547 colones (a colón equals approximately \$0.40 U. S. cy.), and expenditures at 37,223,163 colones, leaving a favorable balance of 94,384 colones.

Turning to cultural activities, President Castaneda reported that in 1945 there were 1,519 primary schools functioning in the country (of which 1,324 were public), with 3,701 teachers. Twenty-five literacy centers were created, as well as 709 new rural schools. The total amount spent by the Ministry of Culture during the year was 2,937,369 colones. The outstanding achievement of this Ministry was the provision of facilities for furnishing student lunches in a large number of kindergartens and public primary schools to combat the malnutrition from which more than 60 percent of the children in public schools were suffering. Funds for the support of this program are raised by teachers, parents, and some municipalities by means of collections, entertainments, and raffles.

Another important step was the revision in June 1945 of the Law on Retirement and Pensions so as to allow primary school

teachers to retire after 20, 25, or 30 years of service with a pension of 60 percent, 80 percent, or 100 percent respectively of their highest annual salary. In discussing this measure, the President stressed the necessity of compensating for the low salaries paid to teachers for work so difficult and so vital to the welfare of the nation.

On June 9, 1945, a Cooperative Educational Agreement was signed between the Ministry of Culture and the Inter-American Educational Foundation providing for a cooperative program to be carried on by the Governments of the two countries. This program is to include an exchange of educators, and a United States Pedagogical Mission has already arrived in El Salvador.

The President next directed attention to the year's activities in the Department of Development. He described in detail the progress made in the construction of the Pan American Highway, the San Salvador-Sonsonate-Acajutla Highway, and the Trunk Highway of the North. A total of 150 miles of road was paved. In addition, water supply systems were constructed for various towns, several air strips were built, a number of bridges were repaired, the building for the School of Military Aviation was completed, plans were formulated for the electrification of the country by means of water power from the Lempa River, and negotiations were begun with the Government of Guatemala for the construction of an international bridge over the Paz River.

In reviewing the country's foreign relations during the year, the President spoke of El Salvador's participation in the San Francisco and Chapultepec Conferences, and then went on to tell of his meeting in March 1945 with President Juan José Arévalo of Guatemala. At this meeting a plan was discussed for the progressive

federation of the two countries, but its execution has been retarded by present conditions. President Castaneda pointed out that this plan does not exclude the possibility of reviving eventually the union of all the Central American republics.

Other events mentioned by the President were the appointment of the eminent internationalist, Dr. J. Gustavo Guerrero, as Chairman of the Salvadorean delegation to the Preparatory Commission of the Assembly of the United Nations, Dr. Guerrero's appointment as a Judge in the International Court of Justice, and the opening of diplomatic relations between El Salvador and Russia.

In regard to agriculture the Government continued to support the activities of the coffee, stockraising, sugar industry, and cotton cooperative associations, as well as the National Agricultural Center, in which Salvadorean and United States technicians continued to work together in accordance with an agreement between the two countries.

Turning to the Department of Justice, the President pointed out particularly the excellent work of the correctional schools in La Ceiba de Guadalupe and San Salvador, and the initiation of a plan to establish libraries in penal institutions.—M. G. R.

### *Protocol for extension of Inter-American Coffee Agreement*

On May 7, 1946, the President of the United States proclaimed the protocol for the extension of the Inter-American Coffee Agreement for one year from October 1, 1945. The protocol was open for signature at Washington from October 1, 1945 to November 1, 1945, and during that period was signed for the United States (subject to ratification) and the fourteen other American Republics parties to the

Inter-American Coffee Agreement of November 28, 1940, *i. e.*, Brazil, Colombia (ad referendum), Costa Rica, Cuba (subject to Senate ratification), Dominican Republic, Ecuador (ad referendum), El Salvador, Guatemala (ad referendum), Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua (ad referendum), Peru (ad referendum), and Venezuela (ad referendum).

The protocol retains the framework of the Coffee Agreement for one year, but suspends the provisions of Articles I to VIII, inclusive, which relate to coffee quotas, with the exception, however, that under emergency conditions those articles shall again become effective upon a motion approved by at least 95 percent of the total vote of the Inter-American Coffee Board.

Article 3 of the protocol provides that during its one-year period of effectiveness, the Inter-American Coffee Board shall undertake the preparation of a thorough analysis of the world coffee situation, and shall formulate recommendations for the consideration of governments participating in the Agreement and of other governments that might be interested in participating in a revised agreement, concerning the type of international cooperation that appears most likely to contribute to the development of sound prosperous conditions in international coffee trade, equitable for both producers and consumers.

### *Census of the Americas, 1950*

It is planned that each of the 22 American nations (the 21 American republics and Canada) will, in 1950 (or at a time between July 1, 1949, and June 30, 1951) carry out a national census using certain agreed definitions and basic minimum standards as to questions covered in the census, thereby permitting for the first

time inter-American comparability of census data.

Originally only a coverage of population was proposed. More recently the scope has been broadened to take in agriculture. It is possible that still other economic and social aspects may yet be included.

The idea of a hemispherical census of population in 1950 was first proposed by Dr. Alberto Arca Parró while national director of statistics in Peru and chairman of the Inter-American Statistical Institute's Committee on Demographic Statistics.

This proposal was approved by the American nations in the First Inter-American Demographic Congress, held in Mexico City in October 1943.

In July 1945, the Third Inter-American Conference of Agriculture held in Venezuela strongly urged that the Census of the Americas in 1950 include agriculture as well as population. This additional suggestion has been accepted by the IASI Executive Committee.

Without standardization of methods and definitions, a hemispherical census would have but little significance. The current lack of comparability in the published census data of the various American nations is well known.

Minimum standards and definitions must be agreed on, for use by all countries in taking the 1950 census of population and agriculture. A study of geographic problems in connection with census enumeration areas must be undertaken, to determine the presence or absence of suitable census maps throughout the hemisphere. When such maps do not exist within the country, they must be obtained. Such a study will be started within the next few months, under the direction of the Inter-American Statistical Institute, by Prof. Jorge Zarur, an outstanding geographer

on the staff of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics.

The IASI Executive Committee at its session in Rio de Janeiro in January 1946 resolved to create a special "Committee on the 1950 Census of the Americas." This committee is now in process of creation.

The 1950 Census of the Americas, while sponsored by the Inter-American Statistical Institute, is a cooperative endeavor of the national bureaus of statistics of the twenty-two American nations. This undertaking, carried through to a successful conclusion, will prove to be of inestimable value to the developing social and economic relationships of the Western Hemisphere.

### *Bank of Guatemala*

The Bank of Guatemala, an autonomous state bank charged with maintaining monetary, exchange, and credit conditions favorable to the national economy, was created by Decree 215 of December 20, 1945, effective February 4, 1946 (*Diario de Centro América*, January 25, 1946).

The new state bank will endeavor to promote the liquidity, solvency, and sound operation of the nation's banking system, and also to effect a sound coordination between the nation's fiscal policies and its monetary policies, adapting credit policies to requirements for the development of productive activity. In addition to these purely domestic functions, the bank is to administer the nation's international monetary reserves and international transfers, and try to moderate the harmful effects of seasonal, cyclical, or erratic disturbances in the balance of payments.

A six-member monetary board directs the Bank of Guatemala and takes responsibility for the country's monetary, exchange, and credit policies. The Ministers of Finance and Economy are *ex officio*

members of this board. A third member is chosen by the University of San Carlos, and a fourth by the private banks of the country; the remaining two are appointed by the President from a list of nominees submitted by the first four, and are to serve as president and vice president of the board. This Monetary Board determines the bank's rediscount and interest rates, regulates its rediscount and credit services, regulates bank clearings, fixes legal bank reserves, fixes maximum interest rates on banking operations, votes the Bank of Guatemala's annual budget, and appoints and removes its higher officers. It is required to preserve convertibility and stability of the currency by maintaining a Monetary Stabilization Fund composed of gold and foreign exchange holdings. The Board must be consulted before government loans are contracted, either at home or abroad.

In order to develop a government bond market, the law which sets up the Bank of Guatemala creates a special fund for the regulation of the bond market, to be composed of net profits of the Bank of Guatemala, unused treasury balances and idle funds from budgetary surpluses, and amounts appropriated for the purpose by the government. This regulatory fund is to be used to stabilize government securities by purchase and sale in the open market. Certain other classes of securities are to be stabilized by the Bank of Guatemala directly, operating in the open market to withdraw from circulation excess funds that may be exerting inflationary pressure upon the country's economy, or to place additional funds in circulation in case of deflationary tendencies.

### *Dr. Stephen P. Duggan retires*

On May 13, 1946, Dr. Duggan, the director of the Institute of International Edu-

cation since its foundation by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace twenty-seven years ago, resigned from active service.

Under the leadership of Dr. Duggan, the Institute has arranged the exchange of 6,581 talented and representative students on scholarships between the United States and many European and Latin-American countries. In addition, through the Institute's Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars, 335 distinguished foreign professors, statesmen and men of affairs have been assisted in securing positions in United States colleges and universities.

In devoting a lifetime to the furtherance of international education, Dr. Duggan has traveled extensively in Europe and the Orient as well as throughout South America. Official recognition of the value of his work has been paid him by several countries, including Chile.

In 1938, at the invitation of the Secretary of State, Dr. Duggan assisted in the organization of the State Department's Division of Cultural Relations, now the Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs. Later, at the request of the same Department, Dr. Duggan arranged for an increased number of student exchanges with Latin America.

Dr. Duggan is the author of: *History of Education; The Two Americas—An Interpretation*, and *A Professor at Large*.

### *Books on Mexico*

For the benefit of those interested in Mexico, there is published herewith a brief list of books on that country for general background information. Since there is a wealth of material on this subject, many other titles could be added.

BEALS, CARLETON. *Mexican Maze*: with illustrations by Diego Rivera. Philadelphia and Lon-

don, J. B. Lippincott company, 1931. 369 p. \$3.00.

BRENNER, ANITA. *Idols behind altars*. New ed. New York, Harcourt, Brace and company, 1935. 359 p. \$3.00. Antiquities, art, artists, and religion and mythology of the Indians of Mexico.

———. *The wind that swept Mexico*; the history of the Mexican revolution, 1910–1942. New York and London, Harper & brothers [1943]. 302 p. \$3.75. Illustrated.

DILLON, E. J. *Mexico on the verge*. New York, George H. Doran company, 1921. 296 p. \$3.00.

GRUENING, ERNEST. *Mexico and its heritage*. New York, The Century company, 1928. 728 p. First hand materials and impressions of Mexican politics.

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PAN AMERICAN UNION. *Mexico*. Washington, D. C., Pan American Union, 1945. Revised edition. 31 p. \$0.05. Mexico in brief.

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PLENN, J. H. *Mexico marches*. Indianapolis, New York, The Bobbs-Merrill company, 1939. 386 p. \$3.00.

PRESCOTT, WILLIAM HICKLING. *Conquest of Mexico*, with introduction by Carl Van Doren. New York, Blue Ribbon Books, 1945. 488 p. \$1.00. First published in 1843 and still highly valued, although out-of-date in some respects.

PRIESTLEY, HERBERT I. *The Mexican nation, a history*. New York, The Macmillan company, 1923. 509 p. \$4.00. Textbook.

PREWETT, VIRGINIA. *Reportage on Mexico*. New York, E. P. Dutton & co. inc., 1941. 322 p. \$3.00. Political, economic, and social conditions in Mexico.

REDFIELD, ROBERT. *The folk culture of Yucatán*. Chicago, The University of Chicago press, 1941. 416 p. (The University of Chicago publications in anthropology. Social anthropology series.) \$3.50. Yucatan, civilization and the Mayas.

RIPPY, J. FRED. *The United States and Mexico*. Revised edition. New York, Crofts, 1932. 423 p. Textbook. \$5.00; school ed., \$3.75.

SCHMECKEBIER, LAURENCE E. *Modern Mexican art*. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota press, 1939. 190 p. \$7.50. Illustrated.

SIMPSON, EYLER N. *The ejido, Mexico's way out*. Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina press, 1937. 849 p. \$5.00. Land problems and agrarian reform in Mexico.

- SIMPSON, LESLEY B. *Many Mexicos*. New York, G. P. Putnam's sons, 1946. 2nd edition. 327 p. \$3.50. Mexican history and civilization.
- TANNENBAUM, FRANK. *The Mexican agrarian revolution*. New York, The Macmillan company, 1929. 543 p. \$2.50.
- . *Peace by revolution; an interpretation of Mexico*. New York, Columbia University press, 1933. 316 p. \$3.50.
- TERRY, THOMAS P. *Terry's Guide to Mexico; the new standard guidebook to the Mexican republic*. Rev. and enl. ed. Hingham, Mass., The Author, 1943. 625 p. \$3.50. Handy guidebook to Mexico.
- VAILLANT, GEORGE C. *Aztecs of Mexico; origin, rise and fall of the Aztec nation*. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran & company, 1941. 340 p. \$4.00. (The American Museum of Natural History. Science series.)

## *Publications of the Pan American Union, January-June 1946*

Books, pamphlets, and leaflets on a variety of subjects are edited by the different offices and divisions of the Pan American Union. They offer useful material to the student and to the teacher in the Pan American field, and make available to interested groups and individuals the technical information developed through various phases of Pan American cooperation.

The following Pan American Union publications appeared during the first six months of 1946:

### COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

*The Pan American Bookshelf*, an annotated list of the books received in the Library of the Pan American Union, monthly, \$1.00 a year.

### COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

#### Pan American Day Material—

1. A colored poster, bearing the 1946 slogan of the Day, "Free and united, the Americas go forward."
2. *Know Your Neighbor*. A series of brief descriptive articles on the American Republics. English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.

3. *The Inter-American System*. An article on the past achievements and future aspirations of the Pan American movement. English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.
4. *Postwar Economic Welfare in the Americas*. An article on current and future economic trends in the American Republics. English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.
5. *Student-Teacher Manual*. For elementary, junior and senior high schools, containing: A play: *A Near Tomorrow*; a quiz: *What do you know about Latin America?*; selected Latin American poetry; and four singing games of Latin America. English, Spanish and Portuguese editions.
6. *Pan American Day*. Observations and suggestions for its celebration. English, Spanish and Portuguese editions.

### DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION:

*Agriculture in the United States*. Spanish edition. \$0.50.

*Directory of Agricultural Periodicals, Societies, Experiment Stations, and Schools in Latin America*. \$0.25.

### DIVISION OF ECONOMIC INFORMATION:

#### *Commercial Pan America*

English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions of the January-February 1946 number, *Inflation and Deflation Factors in Latin America—Wartime and Postwar*. \$0.20.

English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions of the March-April 1946 number, *Mexican Petroleum*. \$0.20.

English and Spanish editions of the May-June 1946 number, *Annual Economic Survey of Latin America. Part I*. \$0.20.

### DIVISION OF INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION:

*Panorama*, a mimeographed publication on matters of interest in inter-American intellectual cooperation. No. 27. \$0.10, 12 for \$1.00.

*Exchange of Students and Teachers*. Mimeographed leaflet. Revised.

*Current Trends of Thought in Latin America*. Mimeographed leaflet.

*Partial List of Textbooks for the Study of Spanish, 1940-1945*. A bibliography. Mimeographed leaflet.

*Outline for the Incidental Study of Latin American History*. Mimeographed leaflet. Revised.

*Latin American Universities Which Will Offer Summer Courses in 1946*. A tentative list. Mimeographed.

*A Few Suggestions to G. I.'s on study in Latin America.*  
Mimeographed leaflet.

*La Renovación del Liceo Chileno*, No. 130 in the Spanish Education Series.

*Importância do Diagnóstico Educacional*, No. 86 in the Portuguese Education Series.

*A Renovação do Liceu Chileno*, No. 87 in the Portuguese Education Series.

*Importance du Diagnostic en Education*, in the French Education Series.

#### DIVISION OF LABOR AND SOCIAL INFORMATION:

*Los Braceros Mexicanos en los Estados Unidos.*  
Mimeographed. \$0.25.

*Noticias de la Oficina de Información Obrera y Social*  
No. 24. Mimeographed.

*Provisional Directory of Planning and Housing Agencies—United States and Latin America.* English and Spanish editions. Mimeographed.

*Housing and Planning No. 1—Six Years of Housing in Chile.* English and Spanish editions. Mimeographed bulletin.

*Housing and Planning No. 2—Urban Reconstruction in the Americas.* English and Spanish editions.

*Cooperatives Nos. 1 and 2.* English and Spanish editions. Mimeographed bulletin.

#### DIVISION OF SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:

New booklets—

Nations:

*Peru.* \$0.05.

Capitals:

*La Paz.* \$0.05.

Commodities:

*Yerba Mate.* \$0.05.

Revised editions—

Nations:

*Haiti.* \$0.05.

*Honduras.* \$0.05.

#### EDITORIAL DIVISION:

**BULLETIN** of the Pan American Union—English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions, January through June 1946. These editions are not wholly parallel.

#### JURIDICAL DIVISION:

*Status of the Pan American Treaties and Conventions*, with text in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French. Revised to January 1, 1946.

*Draft Convention on the Protection of Literary, Scientific and Artistic Works.* Formulated by the Pan American Union in accordance with Resolution XXXIX of the Eighth International Conference of American States for submission to the Inter-American Conference of Experts on

Copyright held at the Pan American Union beginning June 1, 1946. With text in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

*Draft of an "Inter-American Peace System" and an Accompanying Report.* Formulated by the Inter-American Juridical Committee. English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.

*Draft Declaration of the International Rights and Duties of Man and Accompanying Report.* Formulated by the Inter-American Juridical Committee in accordance with Resolutions IX and XL of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace held at Mexico City, February 21–March 8, 1945. English and Spanish editions.

*Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright,* Pan American Union, June 1, 1946. Handbook for the use of delegates. English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions.

#### *We see by the papers that—*

• Two American plays have lately been presented in Spanish: *Our Town*, by Thornton Wilder, was given by students of the University of Chile, and *The Petrified Forest*, by Robert E. Sherwood, was offered by a group called Proa in Mexico City.

• Cuban Air Express, which serves *Cuba* and neighboring islands, began passenger service between Habana and *Miami* last spring. A plane-load of Easter flowers for the *New York* market was an innovation in its cargo of express, freight, and first-class mail.

• Senhora de Martins, wife of the *Brazilian* Ambassador to the United States, has recently had a very successful show of sculpture in *New York*. She is called energetic and dynamic; as for her works, "they hint, often, at grave meanings related to the dilemma of a postwar world." Senhora de Martins signs her sculptures simply *Maria*.

• The *Guatemalan* Ministry of Education is organizing in the capital city a series of People's Houses, which are to provide not

only some modest recreation facilities but also a little further instruction for those adults who have been learning to read in the course of the nation's anti-illiteracy campaign.

- Refusing to sign the necessary permit for alterations which would have modernized a fine old colonial house, the mayor of Cartagena declared that by any such reduction to standardized pattern the historic *Colombian* city would gain nothing and lose much.

- At *Guatemala's* national university, the University of San Carlos, the School of Humanities which was formally opened in 1945 moved into its own new building on March 21, 1946.

- Last May the American Museum of Natural History in *New York* had an exhibit of 200 masks entitled "Masks and

Men." It was designed to show the kinship of men everywhere and their relation to nature. Masks used by the Yaqui Indians of *Mexico* in traditional ceremonies and others from Guatemala attracted much attention.

- A Mexican Book Fair (*Feria del Libro Mexicano*) and an Exhibition of Modern Mexican Painting were held in the city of *Habana* early in April 1946. The Fair was officially opened by the President of Cuba, and during the several days the books and paintings were on display, thousands of Cubans took advantage of the opportunity to become acquainted with the art and the book production of their neighbor republic. Mexico City's widely known Típica Orchestra went to Habana for the event and not only participated in the opening ceremonies but also gave a number of additional concerts which were



Courtesy of Dr. José Ángel Ceniceros

#### MEXICAN BOOK FAIR IN HABANA

Thousands of volumes sent by Mexican publishers were shown in the booths erected in Central Park.



warmly received by the crowds of Fair visitors.

- Arthur S. Kleeman, President of the Colonial Trust Company, New York, has been elected president of the *Ecuadorian-American Association, Inc.*

- Dr. Manuel Sandoval Vallarta, one of the world's leading authorities on cosmic rays and mathematical physics, has been appointed *Mexican* member of the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission. Twelve countries are represented. The *United States* member is Bernard Baruch.

- Plans are being formulated in *El Salvador* for the construction of a million-dollar bridge over the Lempa River on the road between Zacatecoluca and Jiquilisco, known as the Coastal Highway. This bridge will greatly facilitate communication between the central and eastern sections of the country. Negotiations have been started for obtaining the necessary funds from the Export-Import Bank of Washington. The United States Public Roads Administration is lending assistance in the selection of the most suitable type of structure.

- The Institute for Social Improvement and the Ministry of Culture in *El Salvador* are initiating a campaign to establish model farms in each Department, and schools for teaching scientific farm practices in rural areas throughout the country. The model farms will be staffed by graduates of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana in Honduras, and the schools, by teachers trained at the model farms. The schools will offer special training in the raising of hens, rabbits, bees, and hogs, as well as in the cultivation of vegetables, cereals, and fruits.

- A National Experimental and Seed Distribution Station was recently established at Coronel Bogado, *Paraguay*, under the

auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture. The station will distribute selected seeds to farmers, with special emphasis on grains (wheat, corn, and rice), and will also function as an information and instruction center.

- Rubber trees of apparently much greater productivity and disease resistance have been found by jungle explorers of the *United States* Department of Agriculture and the Ministries of Agriculture of *Colombia* and *Peru* in the upper regions of the Amazon valley. Some of these outstanding trees promise, after testing, to prove better than the best of the plantation trees now providing most of the world's rubber.

- The telephone system of *Ecuador* has been undergoing reorganization. In order to improve national service the Minister of Public Works has asked the largest cities to consider forming a National Telephone Company in which the municipalities of Quito, Guayaquil, Riobamba, and Ambato, together with the Government, would combine resources and be shareholders. The Government has already signed a contract with the Ericsson telephone company of Sweden, whereby Quito and Guayaquil will be provided with 6,000 automatic telephones within the next 18 months, and a possible 90,000 within the next few years.

- A 200-bed hospital was recently dedicated in Trujillo City, *Dominican Republic*. The hospital is named for Dr. William A. Morgan, Washington, D. C., ear, nose and throat specialist, in appreciation of his medical services to the Dominican people.

- Three thousand tons of sugar were purchased by *Panama* from *Cuba*, shipments beginning in April. The purchase price was 7.25 per pound. The Banco Agropecuario of Panama accepted an offer from

a Cuban firm for refining the sugar purchased by the Panama government and shipping it to Cristóbal. The price per pound of the refined sugar is 9.45 cents. The Cuban sugar will be used exclusively for industrial purposes, and retail consumers' needs will be met with Panamanian sugar.

- During the years between Pearl Harbor and the end of the war the United States imported more than 34,000,000 pounds of cinchona bark from the other American republics, although in the years just preceding the same countries had been producing cinchona (from which quinine is extracted) at a rate which would have provided less than one tenth of that amount. Countries which led in filling this great need were *Colombia*, *Ecuador*, *Bolivia*, and *Peru*, in that order.

- A *Chilean* real estate firm is building in Santiago a nine-story apartment building which it plans to sell by floors.

- The President of the State of Zulia, *Venezuela*, has decreed that public libraries shall be established in the chief cities of each of the nine districts of that state.

- The *Argentine* and *Paraguayan* Governments recently signed an agreement providing for the establishment of two new ferry services between the two neighbor countries. One of these ferry services will cross the Paraguay River between Pilcomayo, Argentina and Ita-Enramada, Paraguay, and the other the Upper Paraná between Posadas, Argentina and Encarnación, Paraguay.

- In order to safeguard the health of passengers and crew on *Argentine* ships, the Government of that country has decreed that every ocean-going vessel with more than 100 persons aboard, and every river boat with more than 150 persons, must carry a doctor. Ocean-going vessels carry-

ing more than 30 persons and river boats carrying more than 100 must have a nurse.

- As a part of its program to encourage the immigration of farmers, the *Bolivian* Ministry of Agriculture, Stockraising, and Colonization has completed arrangements for the migration from Canada to Bolivia of 500 Mennonite families. Freedom to practice their religion and exemption from military service and from participation in political affairs are being guaranteed to the immigrants, and each family will receive 494 acres of land.

- The Province of Santa Fe, *Argentina*, which contains Rosario, the second largest city in the Republic, constructed last year 225 miles of paved roads. The Province now has a total of 675 miles of such roads, between national and provincial highways. Rosario is a great shipping port for wheat.

- *Revue Agricole d'Haïti* is a new quarterly that has recently made its appearance. The editor-in-chief is Pierre G. Sylvain. The first number was opened with a paper on *Medicinal and Poisonous Plants of Haiti*, by Frédéric Kébreau, Director of the National School of Agriculture, and contained also several technical papers useful to Haitian farmers.

- A new sugar central is being built in the State of Lara, *Venezuela*. More than 12,355 acres of cane for the central are now under cultivation, and there is a possibility of increasing the total cultivated area to nearly 50,000 acres. Central El Turbio is located on the fertile banks of the river of the same name. It will have a capacity of 330,000 pounds a day; and will cost a total of 13 million bolívares (\$3,880,500), of which three million bolívares have already been subscribed. The Venezuelan government has offered to help with the financing.

# PUBLICATIONS OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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## MUSIC SERIES

Partial List of Latin American Music Obtainable in the United States, \$0.10; List of Recordings of Latin American Songs and Dances, \$0.30; Notes on the History of Music Exchange between the Americas before 1940, by Eugenio Pereira Salas, \$0.25; The Music of Argentina, by Albert T. Luper, \$0.20; The Music of Brazil, by Albert T. Luper, \$0.25; Carlos Chávez; Catalog of His Works, \$0.50

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PANORAMA—10 cents a copy

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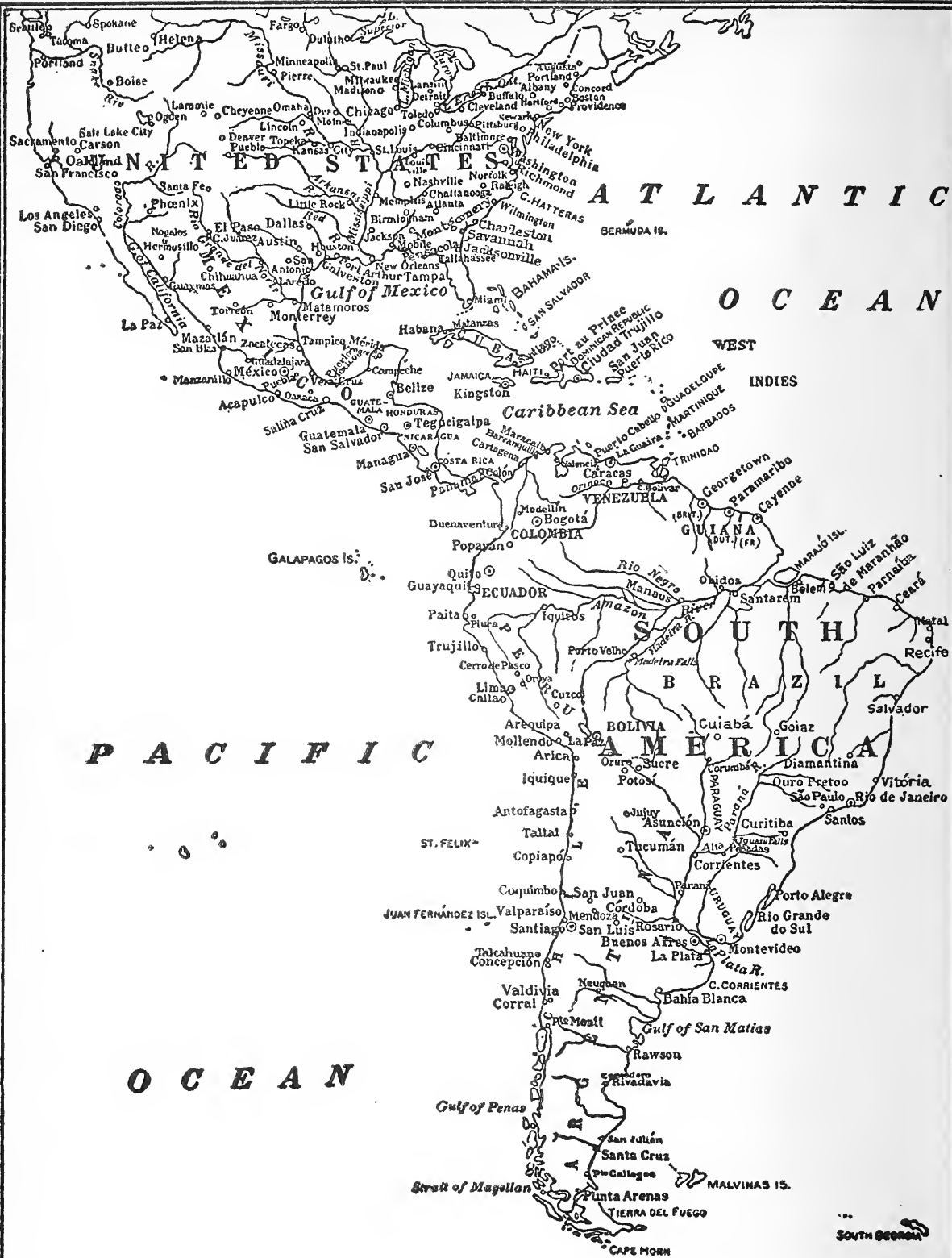
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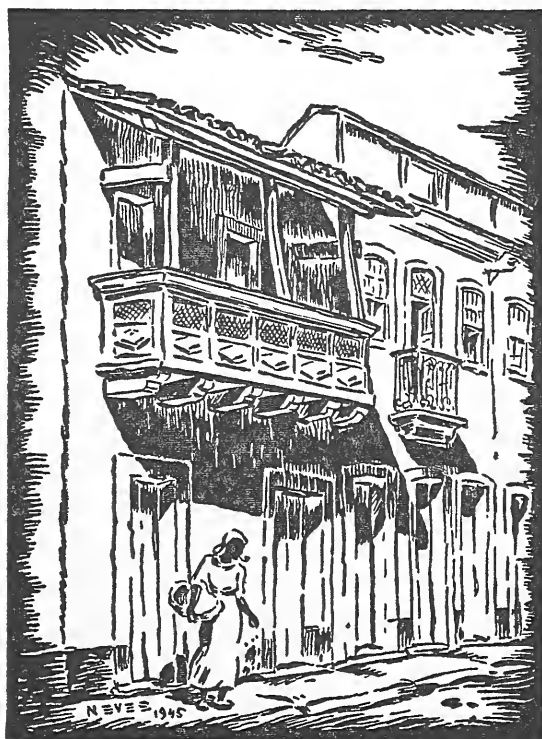
Bibliographies on Pan American topics, such as Inter-American Relations, History, and Description, Children's Books on Latin America, Hemisphere Defense, Bookstores and Publishers in Latin America, Material in English on Latin American Literature, and other topics

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.





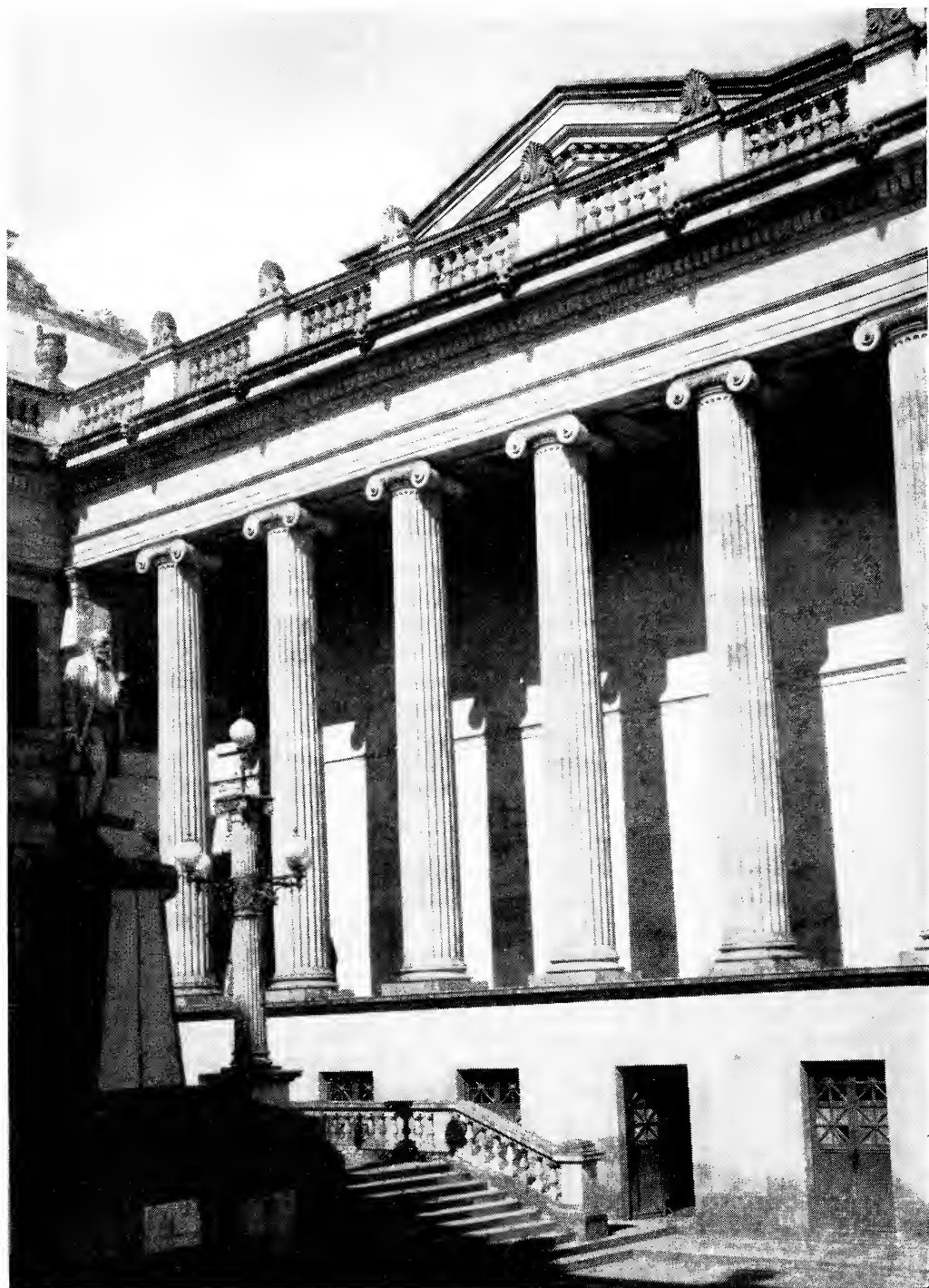
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THE CAPITOL, BOGOTÁ

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 8



AUGUST 1946

## Mariano Ospina Pérez, President-Elect of Colombia, Visits Washington

As THE multicolored flags of the 21 American Republics flew before its doors, the Pan American Union welcomed on the afternoon of June 7, 1946, a distinguished visitor from Colombia, President-elect Mariano Ospina Pérez, who will be inaugurated August 7 for a four-year term. At a special session of the Governing Board held in his honor, Dr. Ospina and his party were warmly greeted by the Chairman of the Governing Board, Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, Ambassador of Nicaragua, who spoke as follows in eloquent Spanish:

My colleagues of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union have conferred on me the pleasant task of extending to Your Excellency in their name our warmest and most cordial welcome to this House of the Americas.

We are deeply gratified by your presence at this special meeting in your honor.

Long before you were called to fill the highest office that the citizens of Colombia can confer, we knew of the outstanding services which you had rendered your country. The fact that you were chosen to be the Chief Executive can be con-

sidered the logical outcome of a brilliant career, wholly devoted to watching over the welfare and prestige of a sister nation.

Your many merits, your sterling virtues placed at the service of the good causes in the high posts which you have filled, your illustrious name—so closely linked to the history of your country—and the special circumstance that Colombia is deeply esteemed by the American family of nations, makes your visit to this House of the Americas especially appreciated. The contribution of Colombia to the solidarity of our hemisphere has been great, and its participation in the noble cause of America has been valuable and constant. At the International Conferences of American States Colombia has vigorously and decisively supported every effort to strengthen the inter-American system of cooperation, taking efficient measures to maintain its integrity and carry out the obligations contracted at our regional meetings for the maintenance of the security of the American Republics, and showing at all times a resolute desire to cooperate in the defense of Democracy—reasons for which you must feel very proud of your Colombian origin. Your visit offers us a fortunate opportunity to say that the Pan American Union is happy to believe that your acts as head of the Government of your country will measure up to the stature



Photograph by George F. Hirschman

### MARIANO OSPINA PÉREZ

of your personality, to your already well-known ability, and to the prestige of Colombia, which well deserves the best services of its distinguished sons.

Therefore, Your Excellency, our personal welcome is enhanced by the high esteem in which all those present hold the part which both you and your country have taken in fostering Pan American solidarity and consequently the cause of humanity—to which we all contribute and in which we all participate—raising our thought and will in difficult and crucial times until they equal the need and respond to the desires of our peoples which, eager to live in peace, in an atmosphere which condemns abuse and violence, aspire to give room to love, the supreme link holding men together, and thus to reaffirm that it is the principles of liberty and equality, fraternity and humanitarianism, which shape the American way of life, within the strict canons of law, justice and mutual respect.

We bid you welcome, Your Excellency, to this House of the Americas.

Moved by this friendly tribute from the representatives of all the American nations, Dr. Ospina replied with an expression of

his personal gratitude and that of the people of Colombia. He praised the work of the Pan American Union, declaring: "Colombia is ready to continue promoting more and more ardently the comprehensive program upon which the countries of America have decided, a program reflected in the doctrine embodied in numerous international juridical instruments, which are models of good sense and seasoned judgment." Dr. Ospina's full address follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD; MR. DIRECTOR GENERAL; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I wish to thank the Chairman and the members of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union for their warm and cordial reception. I have been deeply moved by your sincere words, lofty in thought, and imbued with the continental inspiration that vivifies everything done in this noble House of the Americas.

Your Chairman has referred with great generosity to me and to my forebears. I thank him for his words, which I think err on the side of kindness as far as I am concerned. I am grateful for his mention of my country as one of the benefactors of the great cause that animates the work of the Pan American Union. In this there is no exaggeration in view of the interest with which Colombia has always cooperated to assure the success of this institution.

How can one fail to feel lively admiration, and what is more, profound emotion, on contemplating the course followed by the Pan American Union during its relatively short life, and the humane and beneficent impression that it has left in the wake of its many and varied activities? In contrast with other institutions which are purely theoretical, this institution has concerned itself with deeds. These make all the sons of America proud and justify a healthy optimism not only for this continent but for humanity.

Since the foundation of the Pan American Union, it has seemed several times as though the planet would succumb to the violence of man. Empires which arose before our eyes once and again in the short period of time which elapses between one generation and another and which were endowed with the most tremendous elements of might and power, have been turned to dust not only by the forces of the opposition, but because of their own moral failings. Nobly

inspired institutions, which at one time gave humanity the illusion that it had entered on better paths than those theretofore pursued, declined rapidly until they finally perished, and while these convulsions have been taking place, one after another, with an intensity which has made us doubt everything, the institution par excellence of the Americas has continued without a day's interruption its tasks of democratic harmony, of international understanding, of intellectual interchange, of rapprochement between the cultures of the North and the South.

It can be said, looking at the trail which has been blazed by the Pan American Union in its useful existence, that it is one of the most interesting experiments, and particularly one of the most effective, that have been carried out in an effort to create an instrument of peace, a really civilized bond between countries of varying size and power, of surprising contrasts in their respective outlooks, separated by geographic distances that only the progress of aviation has been able to shorten.

In this momentous hour for the world, in this hazardous and painful postwar period, the Pan American Union daily intensifies its fraternal and cordial mission. To measure the significance of this institution, one need only consider what it would mean to other continents to be able to construct, with the purpose, the mentality, and the spirit of the American nations, other similar "workshops of international friendship" as heartwarming as the one found here.

To the already lengthy record of the Pan American Union in political and cultural spheres must now be added the no less vigorous field of activity assigned to it by the Act of Chapultepec. Within this field is found a promising enterprise in economic and social action, whose supreme aspiration is the realization of the economic independence of all Americans and the united economic front of the continent. Thus this twentieth century will complete, in the social and economic realm, the independence which the individual attained in the political realm in the nineteenth century.

Colombia is well acquainted with the efforts made by the nations members of the Pan American Union to create the structure of a system that has harmony, solidarity, or better yet, unity. This end has not been attained without self-denial and sacrifices. Each of the sovereign states of the Continent has made them for the general welfare. Colombia is ready to continue promoting, more and more ardently, the comprehensive program

upon which the countries of America have decided, a program reflected in the doctrine embodied in numerous international juridical instruments, which are models of good sense and seasoned judgment.

In these achievements a place of honor must be given to the valuable contribution of the representatives of the different countries which make up the American family and which constitute the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, today under the chairmanship of His Excellency Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, the distinguished Ambassador of Nicaragua, a noble country linked to Colombia by old and intimate intellectual ties, which unite us in an affectionate bond.

I wish to make special mention of Dr. L. S. Rowe, whose influence here, heightened by his remarkable tact and good will, has always promoted the welfare of the Pan American Union.

Permit me to express my sincere wishes for the prosperity of this institution, and for the good fortune which the future holds in store for it, to the benefit not only of this continent but of the world.

At the conclusion of the special session, Dr. Antonio Rocha, special Ambassador of Colombia on the Governing Board, introduced the members to the President-elect, after which a luncheon was served in the Hall of Heroes of the Pan American Union.

Dr. Ospina, accompanied by his wife, traveled to the United States as a guest of honor of the Government of the United States. During his four-day stay in Washington he was entertained extensively at both official and social functions. On June 6 he attended a luncheon in his honor given by President and Mrs. Truman at the White House, and that night Secretary of State and Mrs. James F. Byrnes were hosts at a dinner at the Shoreham Hotel. A reception at the spacious Colombian Embassy was held for the President-elect and Señora de Ospina on the evening of June 7 by His Excellency Carlos Sanz de Santamaría, Ambassador of Colombia to the United

States, and Señora de Sanz. On June 8 the Honorable Spruille Braden, Assistant Secretary of State and representative of the United States on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, honored the distinguished guest with a luncheon at the Mayflower Hotel.

Accompanying Dr. Ospina and his wife on the trip were Señoras Zoraida Jaramillo de Plata, María Hernández de Jaramillo, Doctors Roberto Urdaneta Arbeláez, Fernando Salazar, Salvador Camacho Roldán, Jorge Bejarano, Diego Mejía and Eduardo Zuleta Angel, and Señor Edmundo de Holt Castello.

From Washington Dr. Ospina's party went to New York, where a hospitable welcome was prepared.

Dr. Mariano Ospina Pérez is a distinguished engineer, industrialist, and statesman. Born on November 24, 1891, in Medellín, a thriving industrial city in the Department of Antioquia, he studied literature at the Colegio San José of the Christian Brothers in his native city and at the University of Antioquia, which granted him his bachelor's degree in philosophy and letters. From this University's School of Mines he was graduated as a civil and mining engineer. His further professional training was received at the Universities of Louisiana and Wisconsin in the United States, where he specialized in industrial chemistry, and in Brussels, Belgium, where

in 1914 he obtained a diploma in engineering.

During the course of his career Dr. Ospina has been a member of the Medellín city council; a delegate to the Antioquia Assembly; manager of the Antioquia Railroad; president of the University of Antioquia, in which position he succeeded his noted father, Dr. Tulio Ospina; several times senator in the national Congress; a member of the executive committee of the Conservative party; manager of the National Federation of Colombian Coffee Growers; and Minister of Public Works under President Abadía Méndez. As manager of the National Federation of Colombian Coffee Growers, he advocated an open market policy and the stimulation of coffee cultivation in the interior of the country. During his term as Minister of Public Works he advanced the study of a railroad and highway plan and also proposed the organization of a State Railway Board. Dr. Ospina was one of the founders and editors of *Joven Antioquia*, the circulation and reputation of which he did much to promote.

The presidency of Colombia is not new to the family of Dr. Ospina, for his grandfather, Mariano Ospina Rodríguez, held office from 1857 to 1861, and his uncle, General Pedro Nel Ospina, governed from 1922 to 1926.

# Antonio Caso, “El Maestro”

In Memoriam—1883–1946

PEDRO DE ALBA

*Assistant Director of the Pan American Union*

MEXICO is a country engaged in a noble struggle for intellectual progress. In every period of its independent history it has sought for a mentor or guide and sometimes has found one. But since the days of Ignacio Ramírez, “The Necromancer,” Ignacio M. Altamirano, and Justo Sierra, no one has borne the title of *Maestro* by such unanimous agreement as Antonio Caso. The men of my generation were almost of his age, but his mind matured more quickly. Even before he graduated from the old Law School he had taught various subjects to his fellow students. From his youth he stood out because of his disciplined study and because of his eagerness to explore new paths. He lived surrounded by the affection and respect of his students. Those of us who came a little after him called him simply Don Antonio, if we did not say Maestro, for his personality always aroused both admiration and affection.

Antonio Caso was an aristocratic thinker in the Greek sense. While he believed in classic humanism, he was also a philosopher of his own age. The currents of Mexican culture that originated in pre-Columbian times and were enriched by contact with men of the western world at the time of the Discovery, the Conquest, and the Colony brought him a stimulating and profound message.

He always thought of culture as existing on a universal plane. He said that every-

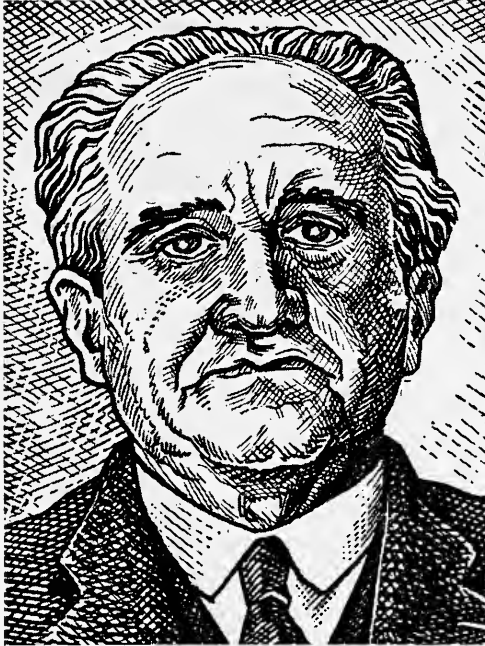
day problems, domestic anxieties, and personal characteristics cannot be fully understood if one does not have a clear idea of the world in which one lives, and if the determinants of humanity’s progress are not clearly in mind. The meaning of history was one of the subjects that Don Antonio treated in a masterly manner; the interpretation of the past was to his mind a philosophic question.

We must refer here, although it may be only in outline, to the foundation of his culture and to the characteristics of his intellectual education. A passionate and confirmed Hellenist, he studied the Greek philosophers of the pre-Socratic age, the century of the Academy, and the decadent period. He himself was like an Alexandrian philosopher who tried to interlace the Christian spirit with the cosmic thought of Pythagorus and Plato and with the logic of Aristotle.

Caso’s studies of the philosophy of the Middle Ages took him from the Church Fathers to the Reformation and the height of the Renaissance. After becoming acquainted with Campanella, Bacon, Erasmus, Vico, Vitoria, and Molinos, he followed the trail of the Spanish mystics who influenced Pascal and Jansenism, and went on to the field of German philosophic thought, which in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries was dominant throughout the world.

He was among the Mexican university men who studied the great German thinkers in the original. Kant, Hegel, Marx were coupled in his thought with Goethe, Schiller, and Fichte, and also with Schopenhauer and Nietzsche. Pure reason, dialectic, and economic determinism were part of the background of his career as philosopher, historian, and sociologist, and great poets gave him his phenomenal equipment as a master of esthetics.

We say that Don Antonio Caso was a



Courtesy of the Department of Public Education, Mexico

### ANTONIO CASO

humanist because his eagerness for universal knowledge and his respect for the fundamental values of life never died. One of the chief reasons why he did not attach himself permanently to the German school was his spirit of universality and his great gift of human sympathy. Thomas Mann, the thinker and novelist, said at a lecture that he gave in the Library of Congress at Washington in May 1945:

Already I have somehow slipped into the complex world of German psychology with the remark about the combination of expansiveness and seclusiveness, of cosmopolitanism and provincialism in the German character. I believe this observation, dating from my early youth, is correct. A trip out of the Reich, say across Lake Constance, into Switzerland, was a trip out of the provincial into the world—no matter how strange it may appear to regard the tiny country of Switzerland as “world” in comparison to the large and powerful German Reich with its gigantic cities. Still it was perfectly true: Switzerland, neutral, multilingual, under French influence, breathing west-

ern air—notwithstanding its miniature format—was actually far more European, far more “World,” than the political colossus to the north, where the word “international” had long since been considered an insult and where arrogant provincialism had tainted the atmosphere and made it stagnant.

The universal value of German culture is found in the musicians, who opened windows, explored the four corners of the universe, and distributed their gifts with heroic generosity. The music of Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, and Brahms is the heritage and pride of humanity, the insuperable expression of the creative genius of man.

Reluctance to place Richard Wagner on the same plane as the group of immortals from Bach to Brahms arises from the fact that Wagner was first of all a German. In spite of his genius, he cannot escape from the circle of the Nibelungs or from Pan-Germanism or emerge from the seclusiveness of which Thomas Mann spoke. Some German intellectuals among those persecuted and exiled by the Nazis have discountenanced Wagner. They believe that he influenced the formation of the Hitlerian mentality, and they assert that he inspired the devastating theories of racial pride.

Beethoven became the symbol of human dignity, the desire for liberation, and the spirit of brotherhood. Thus we have the seeming paradox that the victory theme of the free men of the world was the introduction to the Fifth Symphony, written by a German.

An artistic passion deeply rooted in Maestro Caso was worship of Beethoven, who left us the message of his fortitude in his *Prometheus* and in the Ninth Symphony. Don Antonio Caso also knew well the *Festen Mut in schwerem Leiden* that crowned Beethoven's life and exalted his work; he believed in Schiller's gospel, which served as the inspiration for that immortal work.



We have learned to love and understand Beethoven the man through the glass of French genius; Romain Rolland gave us the key. German symphonic music and the Russian novel of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, harmonious creations of spirit, mind, and heart, were circulated in the Latin world thanks to the French language.

The Greek adage affirming that "man is the measure of all things" is the root of French culture, a magic key that unlocks all doors, throwing open the way to the thought not only of France but of other countries as well.

Maestro Caso, who had drunk deeply at the Greco-Latin fount of knowledge, became profoundly French. He found in French philosophers, poets, and essayists a clarity and precision that accorded with his own temperament. The store of French philosophy that Maestro Caso acquired was equalled by his historical learning. It went from Abélard to the great century of Montaigne, Descartes, and Pascal and the revolutionary era of Voltaire, Diderot, and Condorcet, which was followed by that of August Comte and Hippolyte Taine. This fund of historical erudition enabled him to undertake his study of contemporaneous French philosophy with full mastery of the subject.

Boutroux and Bergson, whom Caso made known in Mexico, were for him the repository of a great inheritance, the upholders of a great philosophical trend that had come down through the ages. His studies on the history of French philosophy gave him a basis for presenting in one harmonious picture Jules de Gaultier, Marcel Proust, Gabriel Hanoteaux, Paul Valéry, and many other illustrious men.

Maestro Caso's solid and profound learning had a pleasant outward aspect because of his gift for communicating it agreeably. The teaching of mathematics is somewhat

similar to that of philosophy. If the neophyte has the bad fortune of falling into the hands of dry-as-dust professors who begin by presenting to him only abstruse and incomprehensible problems, he may feel frustrated from the beginning.

But Don Antonio never tried to crush or discourage his students. He presented the problems of learning in an attractive and accessible form with a clearness that showed him to belong to the classic tradition.

The French influence appeared in his eagerness to teach with a smile and a pleasant phrase. His chair of sociology in the Law School, of esthetics in the School of Advanced Studies, and of history in the National Normal School were tribunes of free thought and sources of a wholesome inconformity, giving a creative and constructive stimulus to contemporaneous life in Mexico.

Don Antonio did not hold the tenets of any particular sect or dogma but expounded broad and comprehensive theories. He always cited his references accurately. A man profoundly respectful of his students' dignity, he never sought to impose his opinion upon them by authority or even by moral pressure. He won those who followed his school and shared his doctrines by his persuasive eloquence and his exemplary teaching.

From his classes in sociology, history, and esthetics came divergent stimuli. Some of the most notable Mexican thinkers of the day—socialists or conservatives, revolutionists or the orthodox—owed many lessons to Maestro Caso. He was not a propagandist nor did he desire to proselyte. He aroused inquiring thought; he required ethical circumspection and a serious effort, intellectual discipline, and respect for the imponderables of the spirit.

His classes in history, esthetics, and

philosophy, analytical in nature and varied and comprehensive in color and content, were the point of departure for the renovation of historical and philosophical thought in Mexico. Even those who sometimes denied it owed him profound teachings.

It would be tempting to write a full biography of Antonio Caso in which his manifold characteristics might be described and his books and doctrines discussed. Some one of his students among those who had the good fortune to be close to him in whole-hearted effort and identity of purpose should undertake it. A portrait of the Master which would paint his essential aspects and traits of character would indeed be a compendium of his philosophical thought.

This task should be reserved for those

who are fully informed, those who have unswervingly followed the academic path. This personal and unassuming offering on the occasion of his death is made with no analytical purpose. Perhaps at some later time I may set down what I learned at his side and tell what his friendship meant to me. I knew him in the University faculty and in University struggles. We were companions in various civic enterprises and we shared cultural undertakings to help our Mexico. I was acquainted with the man in various aspects of his daily life; I knew his exemplary conduct, his unflagging valor in maintaining his ideals, and the great dignity with which he invested his university professorship. He was always faithful to the maxim that he used to repeat to his classes: "Thought must keep step with life."

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# A Railway Educational Program for the National Railways of Mexico

JEAN B. DE CAMP

UNDER the auspices of the United States Railway Mission in Mexico, which had long considered the advisability of a railway educational program for Mexico, the National Railways inaugurated at Buena Vista Station, Mexico City, on February 1, 1946, its first Railway Technical Training School.

Present at the impressive ceremony were Messrs. Pablo M. Hernández, General Manager of the National Railways; Pedro C. Morales, Assistant to the General Manager; Robert J. de Camp, Chief of the United States Railway Mission in Mexico; Jaime Torres Bodet, Secretary of Public Education; Manuel R. Palacios, Under Secretary of Labor; and Valentín Campa, Secretary of Education of the Railroad Syndicate, all of whom spoke with inspiring confidence of the future of this splendid venture.

More than two years of exhaustive research and planning by the United States Railway Mission had prepared the way for this important undertaking, which now has the approval and support of the President of Mexico, General Manuel Ávila Camacho, and the Syndicate of Mexican Railway Workers. Mexican industrialists, at a convention held at the National Polytechnic Institute, on February 26 of this year, also expressed great interest in the technical training schools as another step toward the solution of Mexico's most serious problem—transportation.

Heretofore, neither the National Railways nor any other railroad in Mexico had ever set up an educational program,

either in theory or practice; nor had they followed the apprenticeship system, one of the main reasons for North American railroad success. The obvious result was that as their managers, supervisors, foremen, and other department heads died or retired there was no personnel, trained in these positions, to succeed them. This is one of the most serious and vital problems of the National Railways, for without a competent personnel no organization can function properly, nor can it maintain a high level of efficiency without some practical training method for the development of replacement personnel.

It was the practice in the past to send enginemen and mechanics to study in large railroad centers in the United States, where they stayed six months to a year, receiving practical instruction. While the results obtained were satisfactory, this method has proved very costly. The number of men that could be sent away was limited, since no large group could be spared without risk of serious impairment to the service. Thus many deserving men were deprived of the opportunity of a training which would not only benefit them and prepare them for advancement, but would make them of far greater value to the railroad. The National Railways especially have many good men in their service, men who are ambitious and capable of doing excellent work if given efficient training and supervision. It has been noted by trained observers that the men are not only eager to learn, but that they take great pride in their work and in

any modern tools and equipment entrusted to them.

The management of the National Railways, under the able direction of Señor Pablo M. Hernández, General Manager, has enthusiastically cooperated with the United States Railway Mission in planning and setting up a thoroughly modern and efficient technical training system, which will be established shortly in five of the important railroad centers in Mexico. It is interesting to note that Mexico is the first Latin American republic to have taken such a long step forward in the interests not only of her most important industry, transportation, but also of the welfare of her workers, who will greatly benefit from such a program. Ultimately the general public will profit too.

In planning the educational program, careful thought was given to obtaining the most practical method of instruction. The most complete courses available on railroad subjects were those from the Railroad Education Bureau in Omaha, Nebraska. This institution has had over

27 years' experience in providing thorough and complete courses of instruction for every department of railway operation on United States railroads, and for some 27 years has served under contract 85 percent of the Class I North American Railroads with practical training courses.

Technical Training School Number One, in Buena Vista Station, Mexico City, was built and equipped by the management of the National Railways at a cost of half a million pesos. It includes equipment of the very latest design; special Diesel apparatus; various types of operating machinery; and three complete air brake systems for use in practical instruction. The most modern sound and projection equipment, for the showing of technical and scientific films, has been installed for the important visual instruction.

Series of film strips covering such subjects as teacher training, supervisory and foremen training, basic electricity, bench work, fundamentals of electricity, fundamentals of shop work, machining, mathematics, and many other subjects are in



Courtesy of U. S. Railway Mission in Mexico

THE CHIEF OF THE RAILWAY MISSION MEETING WITH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AND RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

constant use. Some 173 similar motion-picture films, giving visual instruction in maintenance, safety precautions, signaling, switching, yard work, and numerous other railroad subjects, will be added to gradually until the school's library will be able to supply films and sound disks, in both English and Spanish, on practically any subject necessary to the training. The library of each school will also contain reference works on technical and cultural subjects, including pedagogical information for those who will be trained to become future instructors for the chain of schools.

Instruction is supplemented by conferences on the different subjects. Students fill in questionnaires and have frequent oral and written examinations. The 55,000 employees of the National Railways are scattered throughout the different states of the Republic, and it is not always possible to furnish them with schools or instructors to impart oral instruction. To meet this situation, it was decided to furnish courses by correspondence, and the same textbooks used in the class room are used for such courses. Three instruction cars, equipped with machinery, apparatus, projectors and sound equipment, under the care of travelling instructors, will make scheduled trips to various points of the National Railways to conduct practical and oral examinations of the correspondence course students and to give them the benefit of visual instruction.

At the present time, in the schools of the National Railways, the following highly specialized courses are being given:

1. Administration.
2. Advanced mechanics.
3. Diesel electric locomotives.
4. Steam locomotives.
5. Electricity.
6. Air brake.
7. Mathematics.

The administration course, which is mandatory for all officials and men in positions of responsibility, a total of 994 persons to date, covers 25 texts, including:

1. Success.
2. General considerations:
  - Part 1. Supervisor's duties.
  - Part 2. Supervisor's attitude toward his work.
3. The handling of present forces—personal records.
4. Discipline.
5. The meaning of "Safety First."
6. The employment, supervision, and training of new men.
7. Money values.
8. Routing and dispatching.
9. The new railroad strategy—traffic-mindedness.

As indicated in a circular signed by General Manager Pablo M. Hernández on January 31, 1946, all workers are encouraged to take these courses, so as to "prepare themselves for promotion to official and responsible positions."

The course on locomotive running was especially prepared for locomotive engineers, firemen, roundhouse and shop employees requiring ample knowledge of engines and air brakes. The necessary mathematics, such as arithmetic, algebra, and geometry, are included, so as to interpret elementary mechanical formulas, and solve inherent problems.

The machinist's advanced series provides necessary mathematics, including geometry, and thorough air brakes training.

The course on electricity (direct and alternating current) is for those requiring knowledge of the basic principles of electricity and magnetism; means used in calculating work, energy, and electricity; the different sources from which electric energy is derived; the most common type of electric machinery, etc. The student must have a knowledge of mathematics, including trigonometry, to qualify for this course.

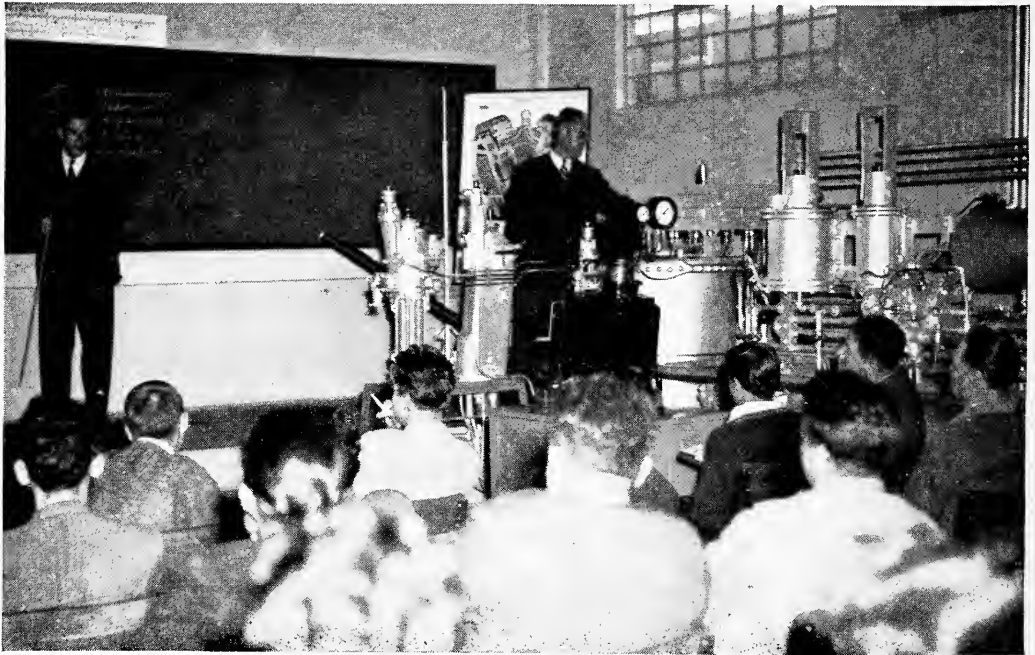
The course on Diesel locomotive operation and maintenance requires a combined knowledge of mechanics and electricity, as well as a thorough grasp of mathematics through trigonometry, and trains men to operate and maintain the different types of Diesel locomotives for passenger, freight, and yard trains. The National Railways of Mexico already have 23 Diesel locomotives in use on their lines, and 22 more on order.

Accident prevention is taken up in every course in a general way. A thorough training in accident prevention will be given in a series of special courses, dealing with safety precaution as a prime factor in efficient railroad service. "Safety First" is the slogan the National Railways will keep constantly before the personnel, by means of illustrated posters in all work centers, special films, the study of pam-

phlets, and direct instruction. A determined effort is being made to impress upon all personnel the absolute necessity of preventing accidents which not only cost lives but damage valuable property and seriously affect the efficiency of the railroad.

The courses cover more than 44 railroad crafts, and require from 30 to 60 months of study and classroom work; but they can be completed in less time according to the amount of time devoted to the studies. These courses are also to be made available to the sons of workers, who may wish to enter the service of the National Railways.

An amazing enthusiasm, proof of the long necessity of such a program, has been displayed by officials and workers alike. In less than two months time after the opening of Technical Training School Number One, at Buena Vista Station, in Mexico City, the National Railways con-



Courtesy of U. S. Railway Mission in Mexico

#### A LESSON IN DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE CONTROL

The Chief of the Instruction Department at Technical Training School Number One is here giving a demonstration of control equipment for Diesel locomotives.



Courtesy of U. S. Railway Mission in Mexico

#### RAILWAY WORKERS IN THE CLASSROOM

These workers are attending a session of the Diesel class. Brake equipment is shown in the background.

tracted for courses for 2,700 men, and the student enrollment already is taxing the facilities of the school building.

Technical School Number Two will soon be opened at Aguascalientes, the largest and most important railroad shop center of the National Railways. School Number Three, which is to be established in Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico's most important industrial city, whose railway yards originate tonnage second only to the Mexico City yards, is already well beyond the blue-print stage. The opening of two more schools, Number Four at Guadalajara and Number Five at Matías Romero, will follow in swift sequence.

Since the announcement was made that the courses would be available to all of the Central and South American countries, much active interest has been dis-

played in the educational program adopted by the National Railways of Mexico. The Southern Pacific of Mexico, a subsidiary of the Southern Pacific Company, has contracted for 325 courses to date. A member of the Board of Directors of the Yucatan Railroads has come to Mexico City to obtain first-hand information; and the Colombian and Chilean Railroads likewise have expressed much interest, as have the railroads in Peru, Ecuador, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Argentina, and the Dominican Republic.

The Guatemalan Railroads, whose workers have just signed a pact of friendship and cooperation with the Mexican Syndicate of Railroad Workers, are registering for the courses of the Technical Training Schools which are soon to be established in Guatemala City.

Jorge Morales Dardón, in the SAMF (Guatemala), states emphatically that "the establishment of technical railroad schools is very important, and . . . we should all enthusiastically support them, with the firm desire of making this a realization as quickly as possible. This is an irrefutable need, and is not only of interest to the workers, but also to the Railway Company, to the educational authorities, and to the public in general, as such schools would bring an immediate improvement of the safety and efficiency factors in railroad service in Guatemala."

In describing the railroad technical training schools as an "irrefutable need," Señor Morales Dardón gives admirable expression to a fact which is speedily becoming apparent to all of the Central and South American countries now watching with great interest the gratifying results already achieved at School Number One, Buena Vista Station, in Mexico City.

The next 10 years should see a marked improvement and expansion in rail trans-

portation in Latin America, for without such improvement the development of industry and commerce, objectives of peace, cannot be realized. The day of inertia and indifference is long past. While the world grows constantly more interdependent, this does not lessen the need for individual independence and strength but rather increases it. Despite the growing competition given by water, air, and motor transport, rail transportation will always remain a vital factor in national economy, and whatever contributes to its advancement, whether it be mechanical or cultural, is an invaluable investment.

It is expected that the Central and South American republics which, like Mexico, keenly appreciate the economic necessity of efficient rail transportation, may wish to give to their railroad employees the advantages of the excellent educational program which the National Railways of Mexico, with commendable zeal and foresight, have already put into effect.



Courtesy of U. S. Railway Mission in Mexico



# Sunday Afternoon Music at the Pan American Union

LEILA FERN

*Music Librarian, Pan American Union*

THE third year of Sunday afternoon recitals at the Pan American Union has come to a close. The 1945-46 season was marked by more numerous and more varied performances than had been anticipated when one Sunday afternoon, early in January 1943, the Pan American Union opened its doors for the first time to a public which had long sought entry to the building on other than a weekday. At that time, the third year of war had brought to Washington an enormously increased civil service personnel, and the city thronged with military service men and women stationed here for the duration or en route to other parts. To offer its share of cultural diversion to the newcomers and to acquaint them with the activities of a unique institution, the Pan American Union offered a series of Sunday afternoon programs. The presentation of a motion picture was to alternate with a music recital, and Latin American art exhibits were to be shown concurrently.

Music programs were not new at the Pan American Union. Formal evening concerts, with admittance by invitation to an audience of statesmen, diplomats, and other prominent persons, had been instituted in 1924, and had been presented since then on an average of at least four times a year, either in the Aztec gardens or in the Hall of the Americas. Sunday afternoon recitals were a new venture, however. They are not so lengthy as the evening concerts, usually lasting less than three-quarters of an hour; and the musicians are

pianists or soloists who appear with piano accompaniment but without the orchestral or band accompaniment which characterizes the evening programs. Sunday afternoon artists perform at the invitation of the Pan American Union, without professional fee or traveling expense allowance. They may be professionals or amateurs, and are often young Latin American musicians studying in the vicinity of Washington, or musicians or music students of the United States who have acquired a Latin American repertory.

The essential difference in the structure of a program by a Latin American artist and one from the United States is that the former program may be composed of European, North American, or South American music, while the latter must consist exclusively of music of the countries members of the Pan American Union. It is felt that the musical stature of a country can be shown as well by the artistic and technical achievement of its native musicians as by the interpretation and performance of its music by artists of the United States. Wide scope is allowed the performing artists in their choice of program material; the music may be folk, popular, or "serious" in character.

Many of the soloists at Sunday afternoon recitals in former years were known through the conservatory, radio, or concert hall in their own countries. Many were preparing for recitals in the larger music centers of this country. Argentina was represented by Eva Iaci, pianist;



Courtesy of the Music Division

### FLORENCIA RAITZIN

Argentine pianist

Brazil by Egydio de Castro e Silva, pianist, and Isaac Feldman, violinist. René Amengual, a Chilean composer of increasing eminence, and his compatriot Blanca Renard gave separate piano recitals. A program of Peruvian folk-songs was presented by Isabel Granda de Fuller, who played her own guitar accompaniments; and Angélica Morales, also of Peru, appeared in a piano recital. The Venezuelan tenor Juan Alvarado was heard in a program of folk and popular songs of his country. The West Indies were represented in past concerts by Graciela Rivera and María Esther Robles, Puerto Rican sopranos, and by two musicians of the Dominican Republic, José G. Ramírez Peralta, artist in folk rhythms on the *tambor*, and Otto Vega, pianist.

The first program of the 1945-46

season was presented on November 25, 1945, and the last one was heard on April 14, 1946. There was wide variety in the thirteen recitals which comprised the series. Four sopranos, five solo pianists, two of whom were women, three violinists, and one dancer gave interesting interpretations of music of the Americas. The sole Latin American among the sopranos was María de Pini de Chrestia of Argentina, whose gracious personality and professional skill alike charmed her audience. Señora



Courtesy of the Music Division

### MARÍA DE PINI DE CHRESTIA

Argentine soprano

de Chrestia's program consisted of a group of songs by European composers, two Spanish songs, and four Argentine works. Among the pianists, Florencia Raitzin of Argentina, Enrique Arias of Colombia, and José Vieira Brandão of Brazil are young professionals enlarging their education in the United States. In Rio de Janeiro José Vieira Brandão assists

Heitor Villa-Lobos in music instruction in the nation's schools; his program at the Pan American Union was composed exclusively of piano works of Villa-Lobos, of whom he is a faithful interpreter. Samuel Martí, Mexican violinist, accompanied at the piano by his talented wife Gunhild Nilsson, introduced his audience to recently composed Latin American violin works and others of his own transcription.

One of the most entertaining and colorful of the recitals was the program of dances presented by Cecilia Ingenieros, who has left her native Argentina for a period of study of the dance in the United States. Srta. Ingenieros was responsible for her own choreography and costumes. Her program consisted of four Argentine folk dances, *Cuando*, *Huaino*, *Bailecito*, *Chacarera*, an interpretation of a piece for

piano by the contemporary Argentine composer Guillermo Graetzer, and other interpretations of some of the music of European masters.

The series of concerts terminated with a violin recital by Antony Zungolo, concertmaster of the Philadelphia Pops Orchestra, whose program included works by Brazilian, Peruvian and Venezuelan composers. Mr. Zungolo was accompanied at the piano by the United States composer and music critic Vincent Persichetti.

The following table of events for the period under discussion includes data on the other United States musicians who participated in these programs:

- November 25, 1945 Julie André, mezzo soprano (United States), Ed McIntyre at the piano.
- January 6, 1946.... Frederick H. Bloch, pianist (United States).
- January 20..... Hélène Emée, soprano (United States), Pauline Slavin at the piano.
- February 3..... Samuel Martí, violinist (Mexico), Gunhild Nilsson at the piano.
- February 10.... Lillian Evarianti, coloratura soprano (United States), John Hoskins at the piano.
- February 17.... Hernando López, violinist (Philippine-American), Willa Semple at the piano.
- March 3..... María de Pini de Chrestia, soprano (Argentina), Beatrice Worthington at the piano.
- March 10..... Enrique Arias, pianist (Colombia).
- March 17..... José Vieira Brandão, pianist (Brazil).
- March 24..... Cecilia Ingenieros, dancer (Argentina), Ramón González at the piano.
- March 31..... Elisabeth Gittlen, pianist (United States).
- April 7..... Florencia Raitzin, pianist (Argentina).
- April 14..... Antony Zungolo, violinist (United States), Vincent Persichetti at the piano.



Courtesy of the Music Division

**SAMUEL MARTÍ**  
Mexican violinist



Courtesy of the Music Division

### JOSÉ VIEIRA BRANDÃO

Brazilian pianist

Three piano recitals were given in the evening during this period—the first on December 12, 1945 by Nibya Mariño of Uruguay; another on February 20, 1946 by Alba Martínez-Prado, also of Uruguay; and the third on March 25, 1946 by Carlos Vázquez of Mexico. These three pianists hold scholarships for music study in the United States. A final concert marked the observance of Pan American Day on the evening of April 15, 1946, when Alice Ribeiro, Brazilian soprano and wife of the composer José Siqueira, participated as guest soloist with the string orchestra of the United States Marine Band Symphony Orchestra conducted by Capt. William F. Santelmann.

The 1945-46 season was distinguished by the presentation of 113 separate pieces and suites of Latin American music. Five dances, 50 songs, 17 violin works, 28 piano

pieces, and three suites for string orchestra were performed. A glance at the table below will show that there were four performances of one piano piece, two performances of several other works, and three performances of a violin sonata. The music ranged from light popular songs to serious concert works. Folk material was introduced, in arrangements by such collectors as Isabel Aretz-Thiele and Sylvia Eisenstein of Argentina, Hekel Tavares of Brazil, and Arturo Miles de Musgo of Peru. Folk themes and traditional rhythms were also apparent in Felipe Boero's Argentine dances for the piano, and in the music of Manuel Gómez Carrillo of Argentina, Ernani Braga of Brazil, and others.

Prominent popular song writers were represented, among them Gonzalo Roig, Jorge Anckermann and Gilberto Valdés of Cuba, and María Grever, Guty Cárdenas, Gonzalo Curiel, Ignacio Fernández Esperón (Tata Nacho), and Augustín Lara of Mexico. A number of the semipopular works of Ernesto Lecuona and Eduardo Sánchez de Fuentes of Cuba, and an aria from *Il Guarany* of Brazil's great operatic composer Carlos Gomes were heard.

Audiences already familiar, through evening concerts, with the larger forms of composition of Alberto Williams, Guillermo Uribe-Holguín, Carlos López Buchardo and Luis Cluzeau-Mortet heard some of the shorter pieces of these composers at Sunday afternoon recitals. Selections of the music of other contemporary composers of the older generation were also heard, in particular the works of Eduardo Fabini, Joaquín Nin, Enrique Soro and Floro M. Ugarte. The close of the century saw the birth of many composers whose works appear prominently in concerts of today. Into this group fall Óscar Lorenzo Fernández and Francisco Mignone of Brazil, Carlos Chávez of

Mexico, the dean of Chilean composers Domingo Santa Cruz, Juan Bautista Plaza of Venezuela, and Andrés Sas of Peru. Two other composers belonging to this period are Silvestre Revueltas and Theodoro Valcárcel, whose careers in composing serious music of distinguishably Mexican and Peruvian character were cut short by early death.

Many works of composers of increasing significance among the younger generation were performed during the season described. Roberto García Morillo enjoys professional prestige as a critic and composer in Argentina. His compatriot Alberto Ginastera and also Juan Orrego Salas of Chile and Roque Cordero of Panama are at present studying and composing in the United States. Camargo Guarnieri has twice distinguished himself as a first-prize winner in inter-American music competitions. Of Heitor Villalobos, the leading figure in Latin American music, little remains to be said. The number of his works performed in this concert season is but an indication of his preeminence among the composers of South America and an acknowledgment of recognition by performing artists everywhere in the Americas of his high musical achievement. Appreciation of Villalobos' composition was heightened by the



Courtesy of the Music Division

CECILIA INGENIEROS

Argentine dancer

maestro's visit to this country in 1944-45, when he conducted many of his symphonic works with leading orchestras, and was further increased by the program of piano music mentioned above.

The table of Latin American works performed during the 1945-46 season follows:

COUNTRY	COMPOSER	TITLE OF WORK	MEDIUM
Argentina . . . .	Julián Aguirre . . . . .	Vidalita . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Isabel Aretz-Thiele . . . . .	Chacarera . . . . .	Dance.
		Triunfo . . . . .	Voice and piano.
		Vidala . . . . .	" " "
	Felipe Boero . . . . .	Cuatro Canciones y Danzas Argentinas.	Piano.
	Catullo Castillo . . . . .	El aguacero . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Sylvia Eisenstein . . . . .	Cueca . . . . .	Piano.
		Huaino . . . . .	Dance.
		Vidala . . . . .	Piano.
	Roberto García Morillo . . . .	Danza de los animales al salir del arca de Noé.	"
	Alberto Ginastera . . . . .	Criolla . . . . .	"
	Manuel Gómez Carrillo . . . .	No me pagues mal . . . . .	Violin and piano.
		Vidala del regreso . . . . .	Voice and piano.

COUNTRY	COMPOSER	TITLE OF WORK	MEDIUM
Argentina . . . . .	Guillermo Graetzer . . . . .	Angustia . . . . .	Dance.
	Carlos Guastavino . . . . .	Por los campos verdes . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Carlos López Buchardo . . . . .	Bailecito . . . . .	Dance.
		" . . . . .	Piano.
		Canción del carretero . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Luis Mihici . . . . .	El cuando . . . . .	Dance.
	Floro M. Ugarte . . . . .	Caballito criollo (2 performances) . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Alberto Williams . . . . .	Quena . . . . .	" " "
			" " "
			" " "
Brazil . . . . .	J. Aymberé . . . . .	Sacy Pererê . . . . .	" " "
	Joaquim Antônio Barrozo Netto . . . . .	Minha terra . . . . .	Piano.
	Ernani Braga . . . . .	Engenho novo . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Oscar Lorenzo Fernández . . . . .	Canção do mar . . . . .	" " "
		Samaritana da floresta . . . . .	" " "
	Carlos Gomes . . . . .	C'era una volta un principe, aria from the opera Il Guarany . . . . .	" " "
		Mamma dice . . . . .	" " "
	Camargo Guarnieri . . . . .	O cavalinho de perna quebrada . . . . .	Piano.
		Encantamento . . . . .	Violin and piano.
		Segunda sonata . . . . .	" " "
		Trovas de amor . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Waldemar Henrique . . . . .	Côco peneruê . . . . .	" " "
	Francisco Mignone . . . . .	Congada (2 performances) . . . . .	Piano.
		Maxixe . . . . .	"
		Quando uma flor desabrocha . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Henrique Oswald . . . . .	Barcarola . . . . .	Piano.
		Il neige . . . . .	"
		Mazurka . . . . .	"
		Scherzo . . . . .	"
	Jayme Ovalle . . . . .	Azulão . . . . .	Voice and piano.
		Estrêla do mar . . . . .	" " "
	Octávio Pinto . . . . .	Improviso . . . . .	Piano.
	José Siqueira . . . . .	Reminiscência . . . . .	Voice and piano.
	Hekel Tavares . . . . .	Banzo . . . . .	" " "
		Côco da minha terra . . . . .	" " "
	Heitor Villa-Lobos . . . . .	O chicote do diabinho . . . . .	Piano.
		Ciclo brasileiro . . . . .	"
		O plantio do caboclo	
		Impressões seresteiras	
		Dansa do índio branco	
		Festa no sertão	
		Four "Cirandas" . . . . .	"
		A condessa	
		O pintor de Cannahy	
		Xô, xô, passarinho	
		Vamos atrás da serra, Oh, Calunga . . . . .	
		Six pieces from "Guia Prático" . . . . .	"
		A roseira	
		Chora, menina, chora	
		O carangueijo	
		Ó sim	
		A maré encheu	
		Na corda da viola	
		Melodia da montanha . . . . .	"
		A manha da Pierrette . . . . .	"
		Modinha (2 performances) . . . . .	Voice and piano.
		Moreninha . . . . .	Piano.
		Na paz do outono . . . . .	Voice and piano.
		New York skyline . . . . .	Piano.
		O polichinelo (4 performances) . . . . .	"
		Première sonate-fantaisie (3 performances) . . . . .	Violin and piano.
		Suite para instrumentos de cordas . . . . .	String orchestra.

COUNTRY	COMPOSER	TITLE OF WORK	MEDIUM
Chile.....	Juan Orrego Salas.....	Sonata.....	Violin and piano.
	Osmán Pérez Freire.....	Ay, Ay, Ay.....	Voice and piano.
	Domingo Santa Cruz.....	Three movements from Cinco piezas breves.	String orchestra.
	Enrique Soro.....	Poema trágico, No. 5.....	Piano.
	A. Villoldo.....	Serenatella.....	Violin and piano.
Colombia.....		Arrímate, vida mía.....	Voice and piano.
	Julio Flórez.....	Mis flores negras.....	Piano.
	Guillermo Uribe-Holguín..	Preludio, Op. 56, No. 1.....	"
Cuba.....	Jorge Anckermann.....	El quitrín.....	Voice and piano.
	Ernesto Lecuona.....	Andalucía.....	Violin and piano.
		Andalucía suite.....	Piano.
		La comparsa.....	Voice and piano.
	Joaquín Nin [y Castellanos].	Catalana.....	Violin and piano.
		Murciana.....	" " "
	Rodrigo Prats.....	El churrero se va.....	Voice and piano.
	H. Rodríguez Silva.....	Caridá le da el santo.....	" " "
	Gonzalo Roig.....	Quiéreme mucho.....	" " "
	Eduardo Sánchez de Fuentes	Mírame así.....	" " "
	Gilberto Valdés.....	Eco.....	" " "
		Ogguere.....	" " "
Ecuador.....	Juan Pablo Muñoz.....	Berceuse.....	Piano.
Guatemala...	Miguel Sandoval.....	Serenata gitana.....	Voice and piano.
		Sin tu amor.....	" " "
Mexico.....	A. Baz.....	El tecolote.....	" " "
	Guty Cárdenas.....	Caminante del Mayab.....	" " "
		Indian chant.....	Violin and piano.
		Nunca.....	Voice and piano.
	Carlos Chávez.....	Preludio.....	Piano.
	Conzalo Curiel.....	Vereda tropical.....	Voice and piano.
	Manuel del Río.....	Malagueñas.....	" " "
	Ignacio Fernández Esperón	La borrachita.....	" " "
	María Grever.....	Te quiero dijiste.....	" " "
	Agustín Lara.....	Granada.....	" " "
	Manuel M. Ponce.....	Estrellita.....	" " "
		Two Etudes.....	Piano.
		Prelude.....	"
		Serenata mexicana.....	Violin and piano.
	Silvestre Revueltas.....	Duelo por García Lorca.....	" " "
Panama.....	Roque Cordero.....	Dos piezas cortas.....	" " "
		Evocación Danza grotesca	
Peru.....	Clotilde Arias.....	Como la mariposa.....	Voice and piano.
	Ulises Lanao de la Haza...	Alegre domingo.....	Violin and piano.
	Arturo Miles de Musgo....	Cachaspate.....	Voice and piano.
		Suspiros del Chanchamayo.....	" " "
	Andrés Sas.....	Cantos del Perú.....	Violin and piano.
Uruguay.....		Suite peruana.....	Piano.
	Theodoro Valcárcel.....	Suray-Surita.....	Voice and piano.
	Luis Cluzeau Mortet.....	Evocación criolla.....	Piano.
		Pericón.....	"
	Eduardo Fabini.....	Triste.....	"
Venezuela.....		Triste No. 1.....	"
		Candombe (2 performances).....	"
	Camilo Giucci.....		
	Juan Bautista Plaza.....	Fuga criolla.....	String orchestra.
	Joaquín Silva Díaz.....	Tropical.....	Violin and piano.
	María Luisa Escobar.....	Ternura.....	Voice and piano.

For further information concerning the above list and other Latin American music, address the Music Division, Pan American Union, Washington, D. C.

Although Washington audiences have received the immediate cultural benefits of these recitals, the presentation of the programs has resulted in greater enjoyment and understanding of Latin American music beyond the community. The concerts have been instrumental in demonstrating to musicians, music students, and critics in the United States the quality

of much untried music and have stimulated visiting Latin American musicians toward further interpretation of the music of their own and neighbor countries. When radio broadcasting becomes an indispensable part of future concerts, another effective contribution to inter-American music exchange will have been made.



## A Look at Parícutín

W. C. LOWDERMILK and REED W. BAILEY

ON FEBRUARY 20, 1943, a volcano burst out of the cornfield of farmer Dionisio Pulido near the village of Parícutín in the State of Michoacán, Mexico. Violent earthquakes had given warning. But the village folk of this picturesque region of corn and pine were not prepared for what was to come, because in their memory no volcano had occurred before.

Their first knowledge of what was happening came with the thing itself, as they watched great puffs of smoke and fire shoot skyward, throwing out great showers of volcanic bombs. (In 10 months' time they built up a cone 1,500 feet high.) Fine grained volcanic "ash" rode the columns of violently rolling, turbulent clouds. Then, as the clouds cooled off, ash rained down over the countryside. Some ash fell as far as Mexico City, about 200 miles away.

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The authors are assistant chief, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C., and director, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Forest Service, Ogden, Utah, respectively. The material for this article was obtained while the authors were on leave from the Federal Government, with travel expenses paid by the National Research Council.

Near the volcano the ash layer increased rapidly throughout the remainder of 1943, but ash fall diminished thereafter.

Lava, as a grayish, moving mass of thick, crackling, crumbling rock, crept forth from openings near the growing cone. As flakes of rock fell away from the "front," glowing red showed forth in the awesome flow. Slowly but inexorably this grayish diabolical river of molten rock moved down slope. It spread and enveloped fields, trees, and all but a little of the village of San Juan de Parangaricutiro. Only the tower of the village church still stands above the jagged mass of lava beneath which the village lies. Later on, the tide of lava swallowed up the village of Parícutín.

Such were some of the accounts of what happened, as told to us by villagers of the volcanic area, and two officials of the Mexico Soil Conservation Service. We were there at the invitation of Dr. Richard E. Fuller, chairman of the National Research Council Committee, to collaborate with the Comisión Impulsora y Coordinadora de la Investigación Científica de





Courtesy of Soil Conservation

## PARÍCUTÍN

Close-up of volcano fumaroles; lava, still warm, in the foreground.



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

#### AN ASH-LADEN STREAM

Lava flows have crowded streams out of their channels, and storm floods skirt the flows, cutting into the ash. This flow contained more than 50 percent by weight of ash in suspension.

México in the study of Parícutín. Sr. Ing. Patiño, director of the Departamento de Conservación de Suelos, collaborated with us in the study and assigned Ing. José Navarro y Sámano and Ing. David Llerena Lanzagorta to carry on field work with us. The laboratories of the Departamento de Conservación de Suelos made analyses of samples of ash and determinations of laden flood waters. This report covers only the more general aspects of the spectacular examples of erosion that we found had taken place, and were taking place during our study of the area about the volcano, as well as the effects of ash-laden floods on irrigation works in the Los Reyes Valley.

From the beginning of the eruption and during our field work out from the *Caseta*, volcanic ash fell on the countryside as heavy black snow that would not melt. It

overturned trees, bent others to the ground, and broke brittle branches. Forests nearby were heavily damaged. Grass was smothered, depriving livestock and game of forage. Fields that make up about 30 percent of the land area, and lie chiefly in valley floors, were covered to depths that stopped the growing of the usual crop of corn. The livelihoods of villagers immediately about the volcano were endangered. They fled Parícutín and San Juan de Parangaricutiro because of lava flows and were resettled by the government elsewhere. But villagers of Angahuan and Zirosto refused to leave their homes. They resorted to other occupations for wages to buy their food. A great influx of tourists gave employment to inhabitants of Angahuan, whereas those of Zirosto were employed on repairing roads and in the hewing and delivery of railroad ties out of



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

## EROSIONAL FORMS

Ash about the volcano exhibits a fantastic array of erosional forms. Here, surfaces without benefit of vegetation are subjected to erosion in the raw.

the surrounding forests. All look forward to a time when the ash-covered fields may be reclaimed for growing food crops again.

The volcano may be a new event to the local inhabitants, but it is merely an incident in the geological history of the country. The landscape east and west, north and south of Paricutín, is made up of hundreds of volcanic cones of such volcanos of the past—some larger, some smaller. From their flanks volcanic ash has been washed and deposited to make charming intermountain valleys in some of which nestle charming lakes, as at Pátzcuaro. The pine forests that make up the dominant type of vegetation of this area came back again, covering the country. When man spread into this region, the forest was cleared away on about 30 percent of the area for the cultivation of corn, and little else.

It was into this kind of landscape, on the western edge of the central plateau of Mexico that rises to 7,000 or 8,000 feet in elevation, that the ancestors of the present inhabitants came long ago to work out their living. It is a region of summer rains, with dry winters. Indian corn-maize was the principal food crop then, and is so today. Forests were cleared away from valley floors for crops. The people live in villages of wooden houses of an unusual design. House walls are sturdy, of hewed thick plankings, and roofs are steep and covered with pine shakes. Some anthropologists suggest that the steep roofs, unlike those in other parts of Mexico, indicate that early inhabitants, possibly forerunners of the present Tarascan people, had learned from the fall of volcanic ash to pitch their roofs sharply.

Corn is grown year after year until



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

### SOIL EROSION

At Narito, accelerated run-off from the ash-covered landscape has cut a gully 25 feet deep through the recent ash deposit of less than three feet into older deposits of ash.

production drops too low to pay for work and seed. Fields are then let lie fallow for a year or more before another crop is planted. Vegetables, squashes, peppers, and the like are grown on protected sites about the villages. This is a land of corn and pine—and volcanoes.

The Parícutín volcano is a source of interest in several fields of knowledge. For the first time, scientists have been given a chance to follow the life history of a volcano from birth, so to speak. The volcano is still active according to last reports. While the explosive intensity has waned, new lava flows took place in the month of April.

At the time of our study of erosional phenomena in the summer of 1945, explosive activity had waned intermittently. For the first 3 days of our studies, activity was not great. But later the volcano put on a great show. We stayed in the *Caseta* (little house) of asbestos walls and roof, about 3 miles from the cone. Frequently at night great roars of blasts from the cone would awaken us to look upon a hellish display of "fire and brimstone." Great blasts of gases and streams of glowing volcanic bombs were shot high into the air. Bombs formed fiery arcs as they showered down, some to fall back into the cone, others to roll down slope as fiery run-off. We seemed to be watching the making of a world. Here were unleashed forces of many kinds—physical, chemical, and electronic. Lightning flashes from time to time lighted up rolling turbulent columns of ash-laden vapors. The earth's surface quivered in its spasms, erupting tremendous jets of gases.

The venerable geologist of Mexico, Dr. Ezequiel Ordóñez, has followed the eruption closely since the second day and has estimated that on the average the water vapor in gaseous clouds shot forth in the early stages of the eruption was equivalent to a flow of water of 1 cubic meter per second, or a stream of 35 cubic feet a second, of magmatic water. This is new water formed out of the molten rock that sees the light of day for the first time and is added to the sum total of the earth's store of surface waters.

Other gases made up a small part of the impressive column of cumulus-like clouds that moved away from the volcano. Whitish and bluish-white clouds about the cone indicated gases of hydrochloric acid and of ammonium chloride. Sulphur fumes were scarcely noticeable from fumaroles about the cone.

We were interested primarily in the

dynamics of the spectacular erosion that occurs in the covering of volcanic ash. Space here permits only a general description of "ash erosion" and some of its consequences locally and down in the Los Reyes Valley, about 25 miles away.

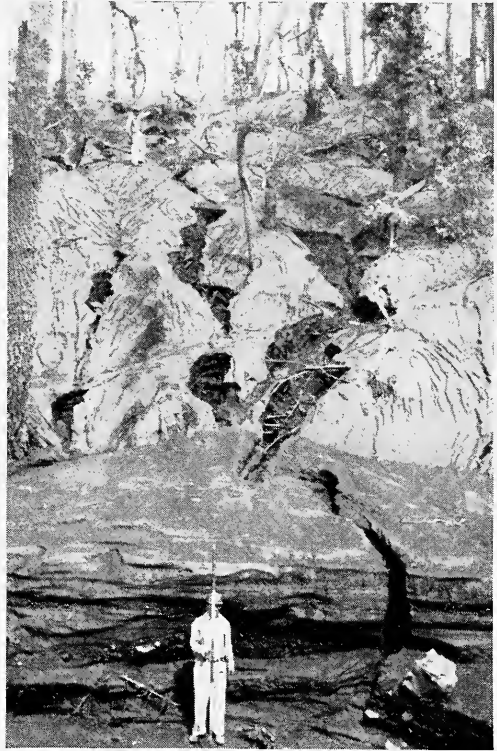
Nowhere had we seen all kinds of erosion so fantastically demonstrated as in the ash deposits about the volcano. Sheet erosion, rill erosion, gully erosion, steam capture, mass movement, mud flows, sapping, colluvial erosion, and wind erosion—all these forms in miniature and in large were found in hundreds and thousands of examples.

The hydrology of the area has been much changed by the deposit of ash. Volcanic ash is assumed to have a high infiltration capacity. Villagers reported that since the ash fell springs have burst forth in new places and old ones flow stronger. This would suggest that more water is percolating through the "ash mantle" than in prevolcanic days. Yet it seems that either run-off has increased, or its erosive power.

Rill and gully erosion is far greater than in surrounding areas little or unaffected by the fall of ash. Gullies have been cut through the new ash layer, and down into the old soil sometimes to considerable depths, up to 25 feet. . . .

Further away from the volcano where the thickness of ash was less than 6 inches, vegetation continued to grow in forest stands and to lay down ground litter that soon practically obliterated evidence of ash fall. But in bare fields erosion was active, unless slopes were nearly flat. Where forests had been damaged by heavy ash fall and leaf litter was covered by later ash falls, gullies had cut deep into the ash and underlying material and were still active.

We took every opportunity to observe and sample storm run-off and its burden of ash. On one such day west of Zirosto village we witnessed a large flood from a



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

#### GULLYING OF SLOPE IN FOREST

Heavy storm floods have cut channels below their original levels.

torrential rain falling back in the ash-covered mountains. The angry flood was steely black and flowed as a heavy liquid without foam. We watched and photographed a standing wave of 10 to 15 feet high. So powerful was this flood flow that banks quivered under impacts of the swirling current with suspended load of 64 to 65 percent by weight according to our samples, and with a density approaching 1.8, or nearly twice that of water.

Such a flow had damaging effects in lower lying agricultural valleys. We made a 3 days' horseback trip to Los Reyes to investigate effects of floods of ash-laden waters draining the volcanic area.

Los Reyes lies in a beautiful valley at



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

#### BANANA TREES

Los Reyes Valley produces bananas, coffee, mangoes, and sugar cane. But now the sugar crop fails, because of the damage to the irrigation system by floods from the Parícutín area.

about 4,000 feet elevation, ringed around by old volcanic cones and the escarpment of the plateau on the east. The climate is near-tropical. Bananas, coffee, mangoes, and citrus fruits are commonly grown. But it was to sugar cane and its sugar that the city of Los Reyes owed its prosperity until the volcanic eruption. One sugar mill was completely out and the other ran at much reduced capacity. Labor dependent on the sugar enterprise had to leave Los Reyes for want of work. A depression had settled down upon this picturesque town, where people talked most about the time when the irrigation of the valley would be restored.

Here are the events that led up to the depression:

Run-off in the Itzícuaró River, from storms of the 1943 and succeeding summer rainy seasons, was heavily charged with volcanic ash. At first, irrigation canals and ditches were choked with ash deposits.

It was a costly and difficult task to keep them open. Next the diversion dam was washed out and irrigation waters were stopped. Several millions of dollars had already been lost as a result of floods out of the ash-covered mountains. Floods heavily charged with ash brought down great boulders and floated them out over good farm land in the valley. Thus far, the erosion occasioned by the volcano has done greater damage than the lava, heavy though that is. But the volcano is not yet extinct and its effects direct and indirect are still going on.

One of the least expected effects of the ash fall was the reduction in the fruit crop. Bees that pollinated flowering fruit trees were killed off in some way. Lacking these busy agents of pollination, the fruit crop has been short for the past 2 years.

But the ash when not too deep does little damage to the soil. In fact, villagers at Zirosto told us that where they could plow



through the ash-cover into the underlying soil their crops were greater. Their wheat yields were threefold those before the eruption. The ash, when not deep, may serve as a mulch that increases rain intake and reduces surface evaporation.

Moreover, the ash is one of the best of soil materials. The lava and ash are derived from an olivine basalt of the volcano. This material contains a good store of the elements required in a fertile soil, except nitrogen. As soon as the ash weathers enough to release fresh supplies of plant nutrients, it can be looked upon as a blessing. But until that time, accelerated rilling and gulying have caused and still are causing considerable damage.

The villagers of Zirosto would not leave their homes, even though the Government had offered to resettle them as were those of Paricutín and San Juan de Parangaricutiro. Ash fall about Zirosto measured about 12 inches in depth and had smothered and destroyed all pastures for livestock. The people butchered or sold their cattle and draft animals. The ash was too deep to plow with local wooden plows. Yet with these resources gone the villagers still stayed on, hoping to get the use of tractors and large plows to turn up some of the old soil for a seed bed. They had confidence that their crops would be better than before.

Volcanoes do not occur every day. Eruptions change the shape of the landscape and spread their effect in ash falls over large areas. The Paricutín volcano and erosional phenomena in the mantle of ash spread over the country are doubtless similar to many occurrences of the past, as is shown by the hundreds of extinct, forest-clad volcanic cones of the State of Michoacán, Mexico. The valley floors filled in with ash washed off steeper slopes of mountains and cones and finally formed fertile valleys as the fresh ash weathered.

When principles of soil conservation and sound soil management are applied, these ash-derived soils are among the most fertile.

Erosion in the raw furnishes opportunities for studying phases of the dynamics of erosional processes that are operating at much slower rates in unaffected landscapes. Erosional phenomena in the mantle of volcanic ash spread by the Paricutín volcano disclose a full range of processes of land sculpture. Erosion and storm run-off are accelerated. Eroded ash is washed out in valleys between old volcanic cones to form alluvial fills so characteristic of this part of Mexico. Flood flows cut deep gullies through these valley fills and carry great amounts down stream to the coastal plain. After the eruption dies down and vegetation again reclothes



Courtesy of Soil Conservation

#### CORN

Where ash is fertilized, the Tarascan Indians have grown corn. Other nearby fields are still bare.

the land surface, fertility will be released as this latest layer of ash weathers.

Prospects for control of this accelerated erosion in thick layers of volcanic ash depend upon whether eruptive activity of the volcano is renewed sufficiently to lay down heavy layers of ash again. If not, accelerated phases of erosion will vary with slopes of gradients until vegetation regains control of surfaces. Within forest stands still living, the annual fall of older pine needles is building up layers of new forest litter that is beginning to, and will, control erosion in the ash layer. But in former cornfields on sloping land, erosion control will depend on the rate of recovery of vegetation or a return to cropping according to principles of conservation farming. Many fields of steeper slopes are so badly cut up with gullies that efficient farming is excluded. Special treatment of such fields is necessary to save these lands from further damage. Fields with flat slopes, however, are generally areas of deposition rather than of erosion. Ash is spread out over these fields in remarkably uniform and even surfaces. Cropping in these cases calls for steps to restore a cover of vegetation of natural growth or crops.

A method of long-range control is also possible. Storm run-off charged with heavy loads of ash in suspension is still cutting rapidly, lowering base levels in big gullies and in streams. Striking exceptions to this down-cutting were found in old lava flows that in some former volcanic eruption had flowed down former valleys and come to an end. These lava plugs serve to establish base levels of erosion for the drainage above such points. Cutting of lateral channels is controlled by these lava plugs and suggests the construction of permanent check dams at

strategic localities to establish other base levels of cutting. Such structures would call into play the principles of physiographic engineering or torrent control as worked out in the department of Basses Alpes, France.

Measures for speeding up the spread of a ground cover of vegetation call for experimental studies in reseeded with suitable crop plants including legumes and in fertilizing the raw ash. Wherever underlying soil in old fields can be mixed with fresh ash by deep plowing, crops may be grown with prospects of good yields.

Favorable effects of the ash layer when not over 6 inches thick may be due to a number of influences. One of the most important is the mulch effect in the conservation of moisture and heat. Excellent opportunities exist throughout the ash-covered area to carry on investigations on various effects of this remarkable ash layer.

The fall of volcanic ash over this picturesque forest and farming country has had a damaging effect in smothering out crops and vegetation and in accelerating erosion from slopes where the ash fall was heavy. On the other hand, the ash, being excellent soil material, will in time make lands more productive of crops. By applying principles and measures of physiographic engineering and conservation farming, damaging effects of the ash may soon be brought under control, provided, of course, no further violent eruptive activity of the volcano takes place.

Lava flows in their formidable jagged black mass are an entirely different story, for it will take a geologic age for the lava to weather. Land covered by the lava flows is put out of any use for a long, long time.





## Flowers Here and There

A MEXICAN Indian girl paddling a boat load of carnations on a canal at Xochimilco, near Mexico City.

A maid in Quito walking quickly along with an orchid plant upside down in her hand, the spray of yellow blooms bobbing as she went.

The California poppies all along both sides of the railroad from Valparaíso to Santiago. (The Chileans call them "gold thimbles.")

The pleasant custom in Bogotá of presenting visitors with dewy roses lying on a tray.

The vine covered with a shower of fine white blossoms that Colombians know as "the Virgin's mantle."

A stalk of yellow narcissus exhibited with pride as a great rarity in Venezuela. The bulb had had its winter rest in a refrigerator.

The words in low foliage plants running around a square in Guayaquil, saying in Spanish, "Simón Bolívar was born at Caracas on July 24, 1783, and died at Santa Marta on December 17, 1830." A statue of Bolívar stands in the center of the park.

A bouquet of a hundred gardenias in Caracas. (Their Venezuelan name of *malabar* relates them to the Lands of Spice.)

The cobble-paved patio of a small inn at Pamplona, Colombia, graced with white geraniums, borders of violets, and a magnolia bearing great white flowers.

The flower market in Santiago, Chile, where chrysanthemums and lilacs may be found together in the spring.

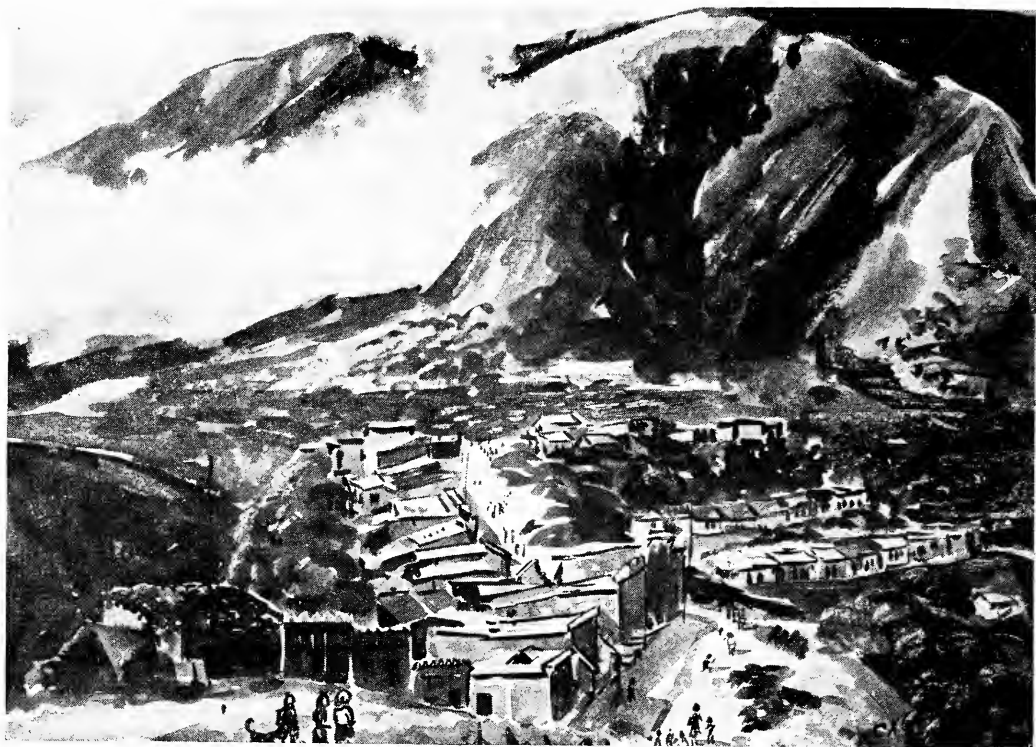
Wild purple foxgloves on the hills outside Bogotá.

The yellow-flowered tree called *ipé* standing like a great bouquet here and there on Brazilian mountains. The flower looks like a daffodil.

The profusion of flowers in Rio de Janeiro, where the stalls overflow with almost everything from large and small orchids to forgetmenots and sweetpeas.

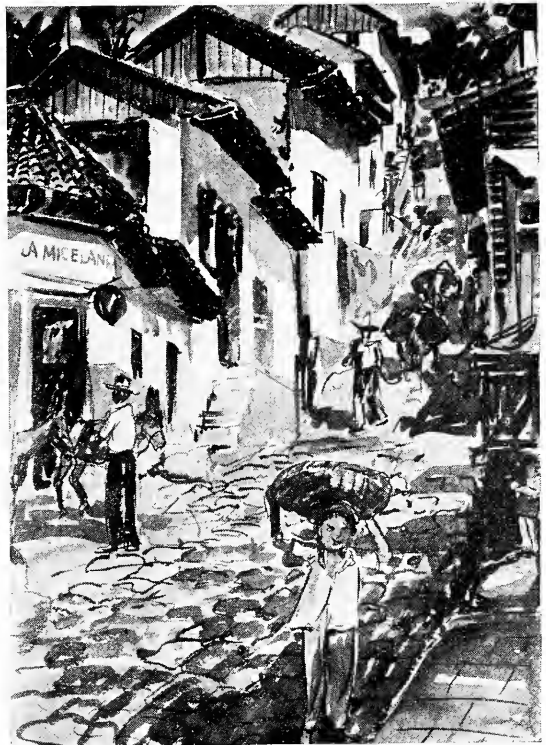
The fragrant round berries called *albricias*—three cheers!—by the chilly little boy who offered them on a misty road high in the Venezuelan Andes.

The wild pink begonias by the road leading up to Machu-Picchu, an Inca stronghold perched on a mountain height above the turbulent Urubamba.—E. B.



## Watercolors by

During July thirty watercolors painted by Charles X. Carlson on a recent trip to Mexico, Central America, and other Caribbean countries were on view at the Pan American Union. Vivid in color and pleasing in design, they



## Charles X. Carlson

faithfully mirror many picturesque scenes. At left: above, Caracas; below, Los Yoses, San Pedro, Costa Rica. At right: above, Colonial Church, El Salvador; below, Street in Tegucigalpa.

# Development of Chilean Production

JUAN MUJICA

*Chilean Consul, Bahía Blanca, Argentina*

IN 1939 there was organized, at the initiative of President Aguirre Cerda, an important semi-governmental institution which, in the last seven years, has stimulated the wealth and economic potentialities of the country. This institution is called the Corporation for the Development of Production. A recent report by Sr. Óscar Gajardo Villaroel, ex-Minister of Justice, who is now the executive vice president of the Corporation, gives many details concerning its activities.

In connection with agriculture, an effective impulse has been given to the importation of machinery, the improvement of stockraising, the development of forestry, and the introduction of new crops. Four thousand units of agricultural machinery, including tractors, threshing machines, and large trucks, were imported from the United States at a cost of 410 million pesos.<sup>1</sup> With part of these, a service of motorized agricultural equipment was started. For a moderate rent, small farmers hire this machinery, which has been used to cultivate an area of more than 85 thousand acres. Operators for these machines have been trained with the help of the Army, which has given courses in running tractors to soldiers. To improve stockraising, imports of blooded sires were increased, cattle diseases were fought, and the quality of pastures was improved. The sum spent for these items was 75 million pesos. On some 37 thousand acres, 5,000,000

trees have been planted. The Corporation has promoted the cultivation of flax, hemp, oil-yielding plants, and sugar beets. It is expected that in the course of time the country will be able to produce all the sugar that it needs. More than 18 million pesos have been spent on irrigation, bringing water to more than 185 thousand acres.

Since Chile has many mineral deposits, the Development Corporation, through the Mining Credit Bank and the Institutes of Mining and Industrial Development at Tarapacá and Antofagasta, has put into effect a policy for larger mineral production. During the war, Chile was able to supply large quantities of strategic minerals, shipping regularly needed amounts of copper, manganese, zinc, lead, tungsten, molybdenum, cobalt, and other minerals. In the mining of nonmetallic minerals, preference has been given to sulphur and fertilizers. The production of phosphate fertilizers has been increased and the Chilean Fertilizer Society has been helped in cooperation with the Institute of Agricultural Economy. To secure fertilizers containing potash, a company was organized to cooperate with a nitrate firm, and another company was started to exploit the deposits at Pintados and Guaica. The money spent for geological surveys with a view to the extraction of products useful in construction resulted in the erection of several cement plants. To increase the production of industrial chemicals such as borax, graphite, talc, aluminum sulphate, and others, the Cor-

<sup>1</sup> *The Chilean peso has four exchange values, varying from \$.031 to \$.0516.*



Courtesy of Chilean Gazette

#### A SULPHUR DEPOSIT IN THE ANDES

In the mining of nonmetallic minerals, preference was given to sulphur and fertilizers.

poration made it a policy to offer financial assistance to companies needing it.

The iron and steel industry, which appears to have a bright future in Chile, received much attention from the Corporation. As the first step, funds were supplied for the enlargement of the steel mill at Valdivia. The Development Corporation itself carried out the technical and economic studies preparatory to organizing the Pacific Steel Company, which will soon be ready to play a vital role in Chilean economy. It is planned to have a production capacity large enough not only to supply the entire national market but also to export large quantities. In connection with this great project, the Corporation, through Sr. Gajardo, obtained last year from the Import-Export Bank of Wash-

ington an extraordinary credit of 33 million dollars.

With the exception of 5 million dollars to be spent for agricultural and industrial machinery, this loan will be devoted to the steel industry.

Previous credits granted by the Export-Import Bank amount to 28 million dollars.

To assist the National Electric Company in the execution of its plans, the Development Corporation helped in the organization, installation, and financing of the Copper Manufacturing Company, commonly called MADECO. This powerful industry will make Chile independent of foreign imports as far as sheet-copper and all kinds of electrical conductors are concerned. Another branch of the metallurgical industry that has received financial

and technical assistance is the Army matériel factory. The Corporation has also helped firms producing motors.

The same agency has aided in stabilizing the chemical industry. Large amounts were invested for this purpose in existing plants. Throughout the war, the production of these companies, added to the importations made by the Corporation, prevented many shortages in chemical and pharmaceutical products. In order to supply another war-created deficiency, the Corporation gave technical and financial aid in establishing a firm that now supplies the country with plugs, interruptors, and other items, including electric bulbs.

In connection with the textile industry, the Corporation's activities have given excellent results. Especially important is the flax-spinning mill built at La Unión; besides selling to national and foreign markets, this mill has stimulated the grow-

ing of a new crop. Flax production has quadrupled and the supply of fiber and linters has freed the country from the necessity of making imports. A modern plant for processing hemp has been purchased. This will prepare fiber for export. Another firm borrowed money from the Corporation to improve its old machinery for washing wool. Credits were also given to woolen yarn mills.

To supply the demand for cement, the Corporation bought enough machinery to turn out 400,000 tons. Part of this was sold to the plant called El Melón, which was thus able to expand its production to 150,000 tons a year. The rest of the machinery was installed in the new Juan Soldado plant, which produces 240,000 tons annually.

The tire industry, which is of course vital in transportation, has also been supported by the Corporation. With help from the General Tire and Rubber Com-



Courtesy of Chilean Gazette

#### BORAX AT CEBALLAR

Borax is one of Chile's mineral products.





Courtesy of Chilean Gazette

#### THE ELECTRIC PLANT OF A MINING COMPANY

A good supply of electricity was from the first one of the main points in the plans of the Chilean Development Corporation.

pany, the Corporation opened a factory which can turn out 70,000 tires and inner tubes a year. The Chilean market has welcomed these products.

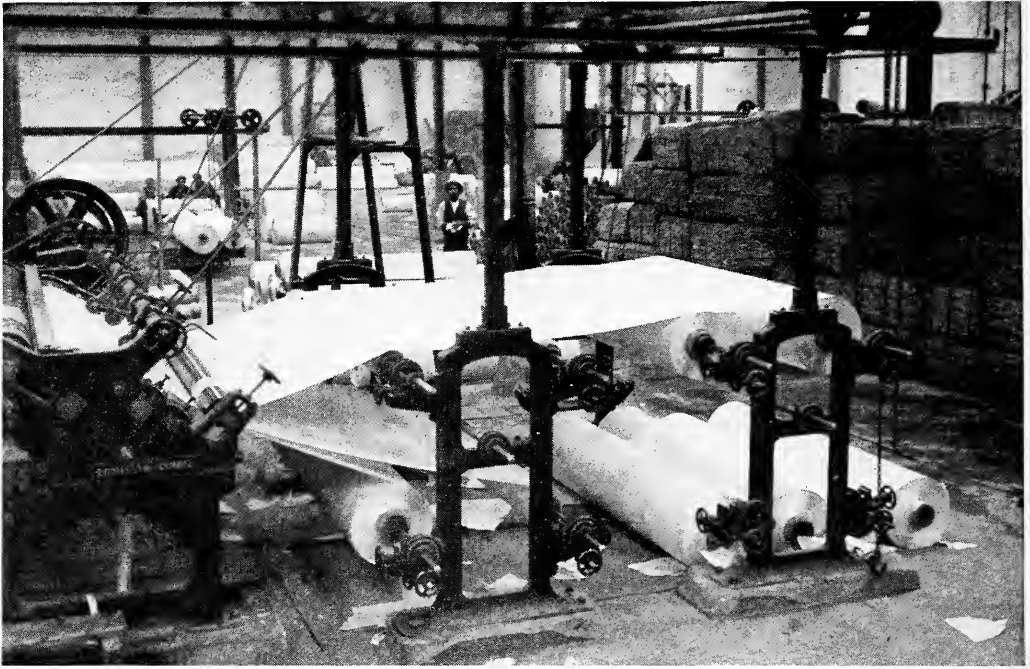
In still another field the Development Corporation supplied capital. Thus the manufacture of receiving sets of a popular type increased greatly, and the most powerful radio station in South America was built and equipped in Santiago.

Chile Films was helped financially in setting up its studios, today considered among the most efficient in Spanish America.

The important fishing industry, which will probably expand considerably in the near future because of the excellence of its products, was given financial support by the Corporation, and now practically supplies the national market.

Execution of the electrification plan has continued in normal fashion. The Pilmaiquén hydroelectric plant was opened, and those at Sauzal and El Abanico will begin to operate at the end of this year. The Corporation assisted various electrical enterprises in the north and has contributed to the improvement of the lighting systems of various towns by making loans to local governments and companies.

Petroleum development, from which Chile hopes great things, was begun by the Corporation. The results of the drilling begun on September 22 of last year at Springhill in the island of Tierra del Fuego are a great stimulus to future exploration. It was on December 29 that petroleum gushed forth for the first time in Chile, when the drilling reached a depth of nearly 7,000 feet. Now funds have been



Courtesy of Chilean Gazette

## A PAPER MILL

Chile has large forests in the south.

set aside for purchasing a refining plant and drilling will be continued in various parts of the country.

The Corporation has cooperated effectively in coal mining by giving financial support to three companies. Moreover, this assistance made it possible to carry out further geological surveys and test boring by various other mining companies.

Conquering the difficulties that the war placed in the way of foreign trade, the Development Corporation obtained excellent results. Through its commercial department it introduced into Chile more than 300,000,000 pesos worth of machinery and raw materials to stimulate various industries. As a result, several new enterprises were started. Among them are the General Foreign Trade Company, the Chilean Wine Company, the Association

of Hemp Growers, the Lumber Exporters' Company, and various fruit growers' associations. In connection with internal trade, the building of packing plants has been promoted. Among these is that of San Vicente, which has 440,000 cubic meters capacity. Capital and credit supplied by the Corporation extended the national airline and the merchant fleet. The Corporation invested more than 532,000,000 pesos in these activities.

To improve city traffic, the Corporation purchased in the United States a hundred trolley-busses, valued at \$1,450,000. To the National Bus Association was lent the sum of 15,000,000 pesos, and a further credit of 60,000,000 was given for its development.

Because of the restrictions caused by the war, the Corporation could not carry out its plan of renovating the merchant fleet.



Notwithstanding these difficulties, boats having a total tonnage of 34,000 were put into shape for maritime trade.

To promote tourist travel, the Corporation has recently undertaken the construction of some large hotels at Iquique, Antofagasta, Ovalle, La Serena, Caleta Abarca, Portillo and Pirihueico. The last two are magnificently situated in the Andes close to the Argentine border. The organization of a hotel corporation with a capital of 400,000,000 pesos is also being considered.

Housing is another field in which the Corporation has cooperated. It has spent more than 170,000,000 pesos in the construction of over 6,000 houses for low-salaried white-collar employees and other city and country workers.

To further technical, industrial, and economic specialization, the Corporation assisted many students through the Pedro Aguirre Cerda Foundation to go abroad for study. Fellowships have likewise been given to poor students to study at home. The expense of several publications of technical interest has been paid by the Corporation, which has decided to publish an economic geography of Chile, has organized and maintained a special library, and sponsored new courses in various trade schools. Individuals who have gone to investigate the natural resources in dis-

tant parts of the country have been helped in their work. Of special interest are the expeditions to the region around the Puelo river and Última Esperanza. Furthermore, the Corporation has organized the Institute for Technological Research, and contributed to the construction of the Marine Biological Station at Montemar near Valparaíso. The Corporation has brought to the country groups of American technical experts, specializing in steel production, fisheries, lumber, and chemical industries, and their reports have been utilized in its plans.

The importance of the Corporation in the economic development of the country is clearly shown by its finances. It began in 1939 with 45,000,000 pesos and entered 1945 with investments and credits amounting to 3,550,000,000.

The Development Corporation plans to continue all the activities already begun, with special preference for the steel and petroleum industries. The electrical program will develop more than 8,000,000 horsepower. The nation faces its economic future with justifiable confidence, counting on the task that will be cautiously and prudently performed by the Development Corporation. What has already been accomplished shows the manifest interest of the Government in improving the economic outlook of Chile.

## Himno Universal a Franklin Delano Roosevelt

CARLOS SABAT ERCASTY (Uruguay)

. . . ¡Franklin Delano Roosevelt!  
¡Hijo del Sol!  
¡Héroe del Sol!  
¡Arquero del Sol!  
¡Sol en el cielo de los Hombres!  
Los pueblos unánimes  
bebieron la gloria nueva en la gloria de tu luz!  
Cual aves se levantaron las almas  
ante la revelación de tu aurora.  
¡Y no tuviste paz para crear la paz!  
¡Y no tuviste júbilo para crear nuestro júbilo!  
Y velaste en las orillas de las tempestades,  
implacable, invencible, trágico de amor,  
inmedible de esperanza,  
sobrehumano de libertad y de justicia,  
apretado el corazón contra el destino de los pueblos,  
quemándote,  
quemándote para quemar la sombra,  
quemándote para incendiar las tinieblas,  
quemándote hasta el infinito fuego,  
hasta la hora de la muerte,  
hasta la hora de la victoria,  
quemándote, quemándote, quemándote,  
eterno, sin fin, sin tregua,  
quemándote en las hogueras de la libertad y la  
justicia!

¡Y no pudiste más!  
Y tus propias llamas,  
hechas de la voluntad y el heroísmo,  
doblegaron, oh dolor, doblegaron tu árbol su-  
blime!  
Y habías crecido desde la Tierra hasta los cielos.  
Y tus raíces se extendían al corazón de todos los  
hombres.  
Y tu tronco era la columna del amor.  
Y tus ramajes eran la luz del Universo.  
Y eras como un Padre enorme, glorificado por  
los pueblos.  
Y los grandes de la Tierra te rodeaban.  
Y los humildes se oprimían a tu justicia.  
Y los guerreros de la libertad bebían de tu savia.  
Y las naciones vacilantes escuchaban tu profecía.  
Y el futuro irrumpía de tus simientes.  
Y la perfección se abrazaba a tu grandeza.  
Y la humanidad aguardaba la dicha  
a la sombra de tu excelcitud!

¡Oh, muerte, fué entonces que llegaste  
para doblar la enorme encina!  
¡Fué entonces que llegaste,  
oh, muerte ciega,  
celosa de una vida tan grande!  
¡Ah, cómo cayó aquel árbol sagrado  
cuando el relámpago desgarró su frente  
entre el horror y el llanto de los hombres!  
¡Cómo sabían los pueblos que aquel árbol era  
sagrado!  
¡Cómo sollozaron las ciudades la pérdida infinita!  
¡Qué clamor de las madres y los niños,  
de los trabajadores endurecidos junto al acero y  
a las fraguas,  
de los héroes acechados por la muerte,  
de los navegantes de fuego entre el huracán y el  
oleaje!  
¡Qué eléctricos estremecimientos de banderas  
entristecidas  
sobre las torres del astro!  
¡Qué plañido de las cosas ante los pechos curvados!  
¡Qué treno del mundo, qué lágrimas de las  
estrellas! . . .

La voz de su amor, escuchadla,  
la voz de su amor  
arrojilla a los silencios de la muerte  
y salta, resurrecta, desde sus cenizas,  
La voz de la libertad, oídla,  
la voz de su libertad  
vuela sobre las naciones,  
y el clamor de los pueblos  
flamea en el resplandor de los himnos.  
La voz de la justicia, escuchadla,  
la voz de su justicia  
apoya su cielo sobre las columnas de los montes,  
y la Tierra es el templo glorioso de la razón.  
La voz del bien, oídla,  
la voz de su bien atrae a las estrellas,  
porque ha surgido un mundo nuevo sobre un  
mundo viejo,  
y los astros rodean la cuna de esa aurora!

¡Franklin Delano Roosevelt!  
¡No fué la muerte! ¡No!  
¡Franklin Delano Roosevelt!  
¡Es la inmortalidad!

# Women of the Americas

## Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

### *Cooperation of the Vice-Chairman*

SEÑORA Amalia de Castillo Ledón, Vice Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, has arrived in Washington to assist in the work preliminary to the next Assembly of the Commission, which will take place in November of this year.

### *Peru*

The rights of Peruvian women have been broadened by Law No. 10552, signed by the President April 14, 1946. It was introduced into the Chamber of Deputies by Dr. Luis Alberto Sánchez, in the name of the Aprista congressional group. The preamble states that the law is enacted in fulfilment of the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with various laws already in effect that grant Peruvian women the right to hold public office and diplomatic posts, with the exception of the presidency and the posts of cabinet officer and member of congress, from which they are excluded because they are not citizens. The law therefore affirms that politico-administrative positions, such as those of prefects of departments, sub-prefects of provinces, and heads of *gobiernos* (towns or districts) are now open to women, and will be controlled in all respects by the Law on Internal Administration.

### *Argentina*

One of the measures introduced in the Argentine Chamber of Deputies grants votes to women. It states that the rights and duties set forth in the legislation of

Argentina apply equally to both sexes. According to the bill, naturalized Argentine women will assume rights and obligations identical with those acquired by naturalized male citizens. Both native-born and naturalized women will be exempt from military draft. The bill also provides rights for foreign women equal to those granted foreign men.

The first daily newscast edited by women journalists was recently heard in Argentina.

### *Mexico*

A part of the platform of the Revolutionary Institutional Party of Mexico was carried out when Mexican women belonging to that party voted in the last primary elections to choose candidates for members of city councils, local deputies, governors, and representatives and senators for the National Congress. This was the first step, it was hoped, toward granting women the right to vote in future popular elections.

### *United States*

In preparation for the coming Assembly, Miss Mary Cannon, United States delegate to the Inter-American Commission of Women, has chosen a Cooperating Committee, composed of 21 representatives of women's organizations in this country who will advise her in her work on the Commission. The Committee agreed to draw up several drafts of resolutions on the improvement of the status of women on the Continent.

# Postwar Measures in the American Republics—VII

Compiled by Dorothy M. Tercero<sup>1</sup>

## *Economic development*

THE over-all improvement and coordination of national economic activities are the aim of *Venezuela's* recently created National Economic Council. Established by Decree No. 211 of the Revolutionary Government Junta (*Gaceta Oficial*, March 8, 1946), the Council has seventeen members: one each representing the Central Bank, the banking business in general, commerce, industry, transportation, agriculture, stock raising, fisheries, petroleum, and mining; three university graduates; two business employees; and two workers. Its duties are to study economic problems and recommend measures for their solution to the Government, and to act as an advisory body to the Government on economic legislation, including customs tariffs. Government departments are required to cooperate fully with the Council in the conduct of its studies and inquiries, and the Council is authorized to seek advice and opinions of various economic interests of the country. For this latter purpose the Council may appoint, when necessary, committees of experts and technicians to assist members in their work.

As an aid to fig banana planters the Military Executive Committee of *Haiti*, the nation's governmental body since the January 1946 coup that overthrew President Elie Lescot's administration, issued a decree on January 31, 1946,

<sup>1</sup> Assisted in research by Clara Cutler Chapin and Mary G. Reynolds.

amending the current budget to allow a credit of 25,000 gourdes (1 gourde equals \$0.20 U. S. cy.), to be used for combating the sigatoka disease that is afflicting banana plantations in certain areas of the country. The money was to be taken from the Treasury general fund. (*Le Moniteur*, February 4, 1946.)

The Government of *Cuba* issued Decree No. 1005 on April 23, 1946 (*Gaceta Oficial*, Edición Extraordinaria, April 27, 1946), providing for the payment of a subsidy to the national condensed and evaporated milk industry. The subsidy is equal to 1.10 pesos (1 peso equals \$1.00 U. S. cy.) for each 100 pounds of refined sugar used in the manufacture of condensed and evaporated milk, provided the sugar is purchased at official prices. This compensation to the industry will be made through certificates which in turn may be used for the payment of specified taxes. Studies had shown clearly that production costs had risen, due mainly to an official increase in the price of sugar, and since there has been a long-standing shortage of this vital product in the republic, the subsidy measure was adopted as a means of encouraging the manufacturers to keep their production up to the highest possible levels.

## *Export, import, supply, rent, and other controls*

*Nicaragua's* system of exchange, import, and export controls was revised by the Law to Regulate Commerce, approved by the President on October 11, 1945 (*La Gaceta*, October 15, 1945). The law exempts from

prior permit or authorization the importation of all products and merchandise, which are not subject to export quotas or other restrictions, in either the United States or Canada and which in Nicaragua are not declared to be luxuries. For any articles falling within the latter classes, import permits are required, and not more than 10 percent of exchange available for imports in any given period may be used for such goods. Before the dispatch of merchandise to Nicaragua from abroad, all Nicaraguan importers must deposit in the National Bank of Nicaragua or in some other authorized domestic bank 100 percent of the value of their orders, plus all other payments that must be made in foreign exchange; and they must file with the Issue Department of the National Bank certain pertinent information regarding their orders. The fulfillment of these requirements is a prerequisite before Nicaraguan consuls abroad can issue the necessary consular invoices. The law also prohibits banks from making loans to commercial firms in excess of 25 percent of the borrower's liquid assets. These two restrictions—the required advance deposit of the full value of the merchandise and the borrowing limitation—were designed to prevent excessive inventories of imported merchandise and to curb further increases in the volume of purchasing power, thereby tending to stabilize prices.

Nicaraguan exporters of national products must enter into an agreement with the Issue Department of the National Bank guaranteeing the return to the country of funds obtained for their exports. Exchange resulting from invisible exports must be consigned to the National Bank of Nicaragua or to other authorized banking institutions, which will immediately convert it into national currency at prevailing rates. The buying and selling of foreign exchange by private individuals is strictly

prohibited. Foreign currency that enters the country with travelers or through the payment of obligations may, however, be bought and sold by private persons, although the latter may in no case export such funds.

The price control maintained during the war will henceforth be confined by the new law to such goods as are subject to quota or rationing in the United States or Canada. However, whenever the market makes it advisable, the Trade Regulatory Commission is authorized to fix prices for luxury articles or for any others in the unrestricted import category. The Commission is also empowered to freeze any articles of prime necessity whenever supplies are insufficient for ordinary needs. The distribution of frozen articles will be in charge of special local distribution boards.

Double-barreled in purpose was the excess profits decree-law (No. 9159) approved by the President of Brazil on April 11, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, April 11, 1946), its principal objects being to reduce the national deficit and to curb inflation.

Near the end of 1945 preliminary estimates indicated that the Government would have a surplus of some 700 million cruzeiros (1 cruzeiro equals \$0.0606 U. S. cy.), but with general increases in all government salaries, as well as some other unexpected outlays, the year actually ended with a deficit of a billion cruzeiros. Just prior to the enactment of the new excess profits measure, the Minister of Finance presented to the President a detailed report on the country's financial situation and offered suggestions on methods to decrease the treasury deficit and absorb some of the excess money in circulation. The latter, of course, was an important factor in the current trend toward increased prices. Among the Minister's recommendations were drastic re-

ductions of national expenditures; restriction of government employment to present levels; abolition, where practicable, of government missions abroad; non-expansion of the present public works program; raising of income tax rates; and increases in certain other taxes. The new excess profits tax was one of the first steps toward a program of budget balancing and inflation control.

The new levy replaces that fixed by Law No. 6224 of January 24, 1944 (*Diário Oficial*, January 26, 1944), and applies only to concerns whose annual profits are above 200,000 cruzeiros. A profit of 30 percent of invested capital is permitted to firms whose capital does not exceed 1 million cruzeiros; 25 percent on capital from 1 million to 3 million cruzeiros; 20 percent on capital from 3 million to 10 million cruzeiros; and 15 percent is the limit for firms with capital above 10 million. All earnings in excess of these percentages are subject to the tax. Two alternative methods for determining the profits that may be retained by the firm are allowed by the law. The first permits the firm to strike the average of all earnings in any 2 years, consecutive or not, in the period 1936-40 inclusive, the resultant figure to be increased by 50 percent of itself, plus 25 percent of any sum invested in the enterprise since 1941. The second alternative uses a gross receipts basis, allowing the firm to retain 6 percent of gross receipts up to 3.5 million cruzeiros; 5 percent of gross receipts from 3.5 to 5 million; and 4 percent of receipts in excess of 5 million.

Profits in excess of these limitations will be handled as follows: 20 percent will be treated as income tax and will be collected by the Government, with a 10 percent discount allowed on the purchase of tax anticipation certificates; 30 percent will be retained by the concern as a frozen fund; and the remaining 50 percent will

become an "obligatory deposit" in the Bank of Brazil. Government bonds, accepted at face value, may be used to pay half of this latter amount. These deposits will be used by the Government to encourage the development of national production, and the full amount will be returned to the taxpayer in semiannual installments equivalent to one-fourth the total, beginning 2 years after the deposits are made. The 30 percent frozen fund retained by the enterprise is subject to the same conditions; that is, after two years it may be used by the concern in semiannual installments equal to a fourth of the total amount. The "obligatory deposit," however, may be converted into "equipment certificates" and will be released for use by the concern for buying equipment under the terms of Decree-Law No. 6225 of January 24, 1944. (*Diário Oficial*, January 26, 1944.)

Provision is made for business concerns, who make their full "obligatory deposit" and who do not reduce it by the purchase of equipment certificates, to receive financial help in case of necessity from the Superintendent of Money and Credit, through the Bank of Brazil, in amounts not exceeding 50 percent of the total deposit.

A few days before the approval of this law, Decree-Law No. 9138 of April 5, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, April 6, 1946) suspended the compulsory purchase of war bonds, originally decreed in October 1942, a few weeks after Brazil's entry into World War II. The compulsory purchase was resulting in hardships on some persons.

On February 27, 1946, another Brazilian decree-law (No. 9025, *Diário Oficial*, February 28, 1946) made various new provisions regarding exchange and foreign capital, repealing certain measures that had been in effect since the enactment of Decree-Law No. 1201 of April 8, 1939.

The new law assures freedom of purchase

and sale of exchange and foreign money, so long as such transactions conform to the provisions of the decree-law in question and to restrictions issued by the Bank of Brazil. The 1939 decree required banks that purchase export drafts to sell to the Bank of Brazil, in the form of sight drafts on London or New York, at least 30 percent of the total of such exchange operations; the new 1946 decree authorized the Superintendent of Money and Credit to reduce this percentage or even to do away with it entirely. The return of duly registered foreign capital is also assured, in annual amounts not exceeding 20 percent of the total capital. After capital has remained in Brazil for two years, the immediate return of all or any amount of it invested in Brazilian government bonds is guaranteed. The withdrawal of interest, profits, and dividends in excess of 8 percent of invested capital will be considered as the withdrawal of capital itself. The free use in Brazil of funds in national money belonging to residents abroad is also assured, but only banks authorized to operate in exchange may maintain accounts in national or foreign money in the name of residents abroad.

Banks are obliged to transfer to the Bank of Brazil a sum equal to 3 percent of the value of all their exchange operations, including those made on behalf of the Government. This money will be placed in a special account and, under the direction of the Superintendent of Money and Credit, will be used partly to redeem the country's floating debt and partly to build up a reserve for the service of long and medium term bonds issued for the purchase of export drafts, for the financing of public works, and for other undertakings of national economic importance.

Still another Brazilian decree-law, No. 9083 of March 22, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, March 25, 1946), abolished the National

Council of Industrial and Commercial Policy, which was created in November 1943 for the purpose of studying, planning, and recommending appropriate measures pertaining to Brazilian economy during the war. The personnel and functions of the now extinct Council were transferred to the Ministry of Labor, Industry, and Commerce.

Sounds of hunger in the barnyard seem to have penetrated to the halls of government in two South American countries, close neighbors to each other, for both Uruguay and Brazil took steps in March 1946 to facilitate the importation of cattle and poultry feed. On March 12 *Uruguay* extended indefinitely a January 1946 decree that permitted the duty-free importation of feed for poultry, swine, and dairy cattle. (Decree No. 414, *Diario Oficial*, March 20, 1946.) The Government had already prohibited for an indefinite time, by means of a decree dated February 27, 1946, the exportation of all kinds of oil seed cakes that might be used for feed, and the oil extractive industries were required to make monthly reports on their production, sales, and any surpluses of oil cakes on hand. (*Diario Oficial*, March 6, 1946.) On March 22, 1946, by Decree-Law No. 9084, *Brazil* suspended for a 6-month period the collection of import duties and customs fees on bran, middlings, and shorts, in order to assist cattle and poultry growers in getting feed for their stock. (*Diário Oficial*, March 25, 1946.)

*Argentina*, on the other hand, apparently found it desirable to get rid of some of its farm animals. Presidential Decree No. 34425, dated December 31, 1945, lifted existing restrictions on the exportation of horses. Good prices for both work animals and breeding stock had tended to increase production to the extent that an exportable surplus existed. Exportation of donkeys

and mules, however, was restricted by the same decree to animals of specified age and, in the case of mules, to a single period of three months a year, and this only after domestic needs have been met. (*Boletín Oficial*, January 24, 1946.)

A quota system established in 1945 in Argentina for the exportation of cattle for breeding purposes was continued in effect for the year 1946 by means of Resolution No. 238 of the Ministry of Agriculture, approved January 22, 1946. For the current year the quota was increased to 6,000 animals, being fixed as follows: Peru, 2,600; Chile, 900; Uruguay, 750; Brazil, 850; Colombia, 300; Paraguay, 175; Bolivia, 150; Ecuador, 150; and other South American countries, 125. (*Boletín Oficial*, February 4, 1946.)

On April 29, 1946, the Office of Economic Stabilization of *Guatemala* entered into an agreement with the leather industry whereby, because of the scarcity of leather for domestic use, all exports of hides were suspended for the month of May 1946, and the entire production devoted to home use. (*Diario de Centro América*, Sección Informativa, April 30, 1946.)

In Argentina and Brazil poultry and livestock did not occupy the sole attention of the Government in the matter of foreign trade, however. The exportation of objects made of precious metals was made subject to prior permit in *Brazil* by Decree-Law No. 9052 of March 12, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, March 14, 1946); and in *Argentina* a 1945 decree that had absolutely prohibited the exportation of spinning machines and spare parts was amended on January 30, 1946, to make such goods subject to prior export permit. (Decree No. 3056, *Boletín Oficial*, February 9, 1946.)

Three nations recently lifted wartime restrictions connected with motor transport.

The rationing of tires and tubes for all

classes of motor vehicles and of tires for bicycles and motorcycles was abolished in *Guatemala* by means of a presidential resolution dated May 6, 1946. Importers, however, must still submit to the Office of Economic Stabilization certain data concerning their imports, a declaration of stocks, and other pertinent information before offering the merchandise for sale, and they must make daily reports of their sales. (*Diario de Centro América*, May 15, 1946.)

On August 13, 1942, the *Dominican Republic*, by means of decree No. 168, specified shipping ports and ordered the domestic transportation of corn by railway, in order to conserve both motor vehicles and gasoline. These regulations were repealed on March 12, 1946, by Presidential Decree No. 3410. (*Gaceta Oficial*, March 16, 1946.)

In January 1946 *Argentina* ended its wartime rationing of gasoline. The YPF (*Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales*), the government petroleum office, considered that supplies warranted this action, and Presidential Decree No. 1719 was issued to that effect on January 22. The same decree also ratified another resolution of the YPF repealing existing restrictions on the use of electric power. (*Boletín Oficial*, January 30, 1946.)

Rent control legislation has been in effect in *Mexico* since 1942, but on February 11, 1946, another decree was approved by the President referring particularly to housing rents of less than 300 pesos per month (one peso equals \$0.2058 U. S. cy.). Rents may not be increased and leases must be extended, during the time the decree remains in effect, on houses or other dwelling places used: (a) exclusively for living purposes by the renter and his family; (b) by persons who engage in work in their homes; and (c) for family workshops. If improvements are made



which the owner considers justify an increased rental, previous court authorization must be obtained for the increase. When a dwelling is vacated, the new tenant must be granted the same rent as the previous one paid. The decree has a maximum duration of two years, although the President may terminate it earlier if general conditions make such action justifiable. (*Diario Oficial*, May 8, 1946.)

*Bilateral and multilateral agreements*

*Export-Import Bank Agreements.* On January 31, 1946, an agreement was made between the Republic of Costa Rica and the Export-Import Bank of Washington regarding the refunding of the \$5,000,000 loan for construction materials and services made by the Bank to Costa Rica in 1941, as amended by supplementary agreements in 1942 and 1943, and the \$2,000,000 credit extended by the Bank in 1942 and by a supplementary and amendatory agreement in 1944.

Eximbank credits extended to Costa Rica have totaled \$8,723,000, which sum includes the \$7,000,000 granted under the agreements just mentioned, plus \$1,723,000 previously authorized. As of December 31, 1945, \$7,224,607 of this amount had been disbursed; \$1,448,393 either canceled or expired; \$50,000, or 0.7 percent, was still undisbursed; and a total of \$274,607 had been repaid on the loans.

The new agreement was entered into in order to help ease Costa Rica's present financial difficulties. The proceeds of certain tobacco and gasoline taxes were pledged by Costa Rica to secure payment of its notes and bonds on the loans in question but since economic conditions had become such that Costa Rica appeared unable to meet installments on the principal and interest payments maturing during the next few years, Eximbank agreed to accept partial pay-

ments, during each of the calendar years 1946 through 1950, of a sum not less than \$350,000. The gasoline tax will continue to be used for this purpose; if it is insufficient, the deficit must be made up from other revenues. Funds on deposit in the tobacco tax account at the effective date of the agreement were to be paid to Eximbank in an amount sufficient to pay accrued interest on notes up to January 1, 1946; any remainder in the tobacco tax account after such interest payments was to be released to the republic for general use. At the end of the five-year period covered by the new agreement, Eximbank will reconsider the country's financial condition and, in consultation with Costa Rica, will then determine further steps for final payment of the loans. (*La Gaceta*, Costa Rica, March 8, 1946.)

The Republic of Uruguay entered into an agreement with Eximbank on February 4, 1943, for a \$20,000,000 credit for public works, the money to be placed at Uruguay's disposal at the rate of \$5,000,000 a year during the four years 1943-46. Through December 1945, only \$2,295,000 of the credit had been used, and, in accordance with the agreement, the remainder of the \$15,000,000 thus far available had lapsed, leaving \$5,000,000 still available for the calendar year 1946. In January 1946, however, the Government of Uruguay considered that it was in a position to finance the public works program at home, without recourse to foreign loans. Therefore, by means of Presidential Decree No. 353 of January 18, 1946, the \$5,000,000 Eximbank credit was declared to be unnecessary. Other sections of the decree provided for the issuance, as necessary, of certain authorized public works bonds, the proceeds of which will be used for amortization of the outstanding debt to the Export-Import Bank; and other authorized public works

bonds were earmarked for the public works program itself. (*Diario Oficial*, February 8, 1946.)

*Fifth Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee.* Twenty-seven nations having substantial interests in cotton, as exporters or importers, were represented at the fifth meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee in Washington May 7-14, 1946.

A more formal and permanent organization for the Committee, with a secretariat in Washington, was provided for in the final act of the meeting. The Committee's final resolution also found "that although the world cotton situation is currently undergoing improvement, a substantial surplus of cotton still exists," that the situation should be kept under review, and that "the study of proposals for international collaboration in respect to the world cotton surplus should be pursued and that a medium should be pro-

vided for the consideration of current international cotton problems."

An executive committee consisting of representatives of six importing and six exporting countries (Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, India, Peru, the United Kingdom, and the United States) was created to serve until the next meeting of the ICAC. The secretariat will be set up upon acceptance of the resolution by at least 12 member governments.

Governments represented at the fifth meeting were Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Greece, India, Iran, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela, and Yugoslavia. (*Department of State Bulletin*, May 26, 1946.)



# Pan American News

## *Argentine and Brazilian budgets for 1946*

Argentina's 1946 budget fixed expenditures at 1,768,610,000 pesos (one peso equals approximately \$0.268 U. S. cy.). Payments on the national debt represent 22 percent of this total, and the appropriation for the Ministry of War 18 percent. The appropriation for the Ministry of the Interior represents 12 percent, that for the National Council of Education 9 percent, and those for the Ministry of Justice and Public Instruction and the Ministry of the Navy 8 percent each. Revenues for the year were estimated at 1,390,067,000 pesos. The chief sources of revenue and their expected yield were: income taxes, 24 percent; internal taxes, 18 percent; customs, 16 percent; stamp taxes, 8 percent; taxes on excess profits, 6 percent; and sales taxes, 5 percent.

In Brazil's budget for 1946, revenues were estimated at 10,010,148,000 cruzeiros (one cruzeiro equals about \$0.06 U. S. cy.), and expenditures at 9,281,790,000. The leading item in the list of expenditures was the appropriation for the Ministry of the Treasury, which represented 30 percent of the total; next in line were those for the Ministry of War (19 percent), the Ministry of Communications and Public Works (10 percent), the Ministry of Air (9 percent), the Ministry of the Navy (8 percent), and the Ministry of Education and Health (7 percent).

## *Meat products in Brazil*

Meat products are one of Brazil's most important sources of wealth. War needs of the country's customer nations boosted the

value of meat exports 100 percent between 1939 and 1940. Exports of these products in the latter year amounted to nearly 159,000 tons, valued at 514,000,000 cruzeiros (a cruzeiro equals \$0.0606 in U. S. currency), or 10 percent of the total value of exports. In 1942, although only 135,000 tons were exported, the total value, as a result of rising prices, reached 708,000,000 cruzeiros, exceeding even the value of raw cotton exports. Preserved meats were chief among the meat products exported in 1942, taking fifth place among the country's exports. After 1942, exports of meat products had to be curtailed in order that internal needs might be met, but in spite of this the value of such exports amounted to 466,000,000 cruzeiros in 1943 and 346,000,000 cruzeiros in 1944.

Since the beginning of the war, England has been the principal purchaser of Brazil's meat products. In 1945, 98 percent of the preserved meats exported went to Great Britain, as well as all of the exports of frozen beef.

## *Brazil's wheat problem*

Brazil, like many other countries in the world, is suffering from an acute shortage of wheat and wheat flour. The country's requirement of 1,300,000 tons annually in addition to domestic production is not being covered by current imports (the bulk of which come from Argentina).

In spite of the fact that Ministry of Agriculture surveys have shown that Brazil could conceivably produce three times as much wheat as it annually consumes, the country is one of the world's largest importers of this grain. The Government,

in order to lighten the burden of heavy wheat imports on the nation's economy, has carried on extensive campaigns to increase domestic production, and tried between 1938 and 1943 to reduce wheat consumption through requiring the use of mixed flour in the manufacture of bread. The results of this last measure may be seen in the table below in the decreased importation figures during those years. When the requirement was discontinued in 1943 imports jumped rapidly.

The current wheat shortage has taken over the front pages of newspapers throughout the country. Lines of customers waiting for bread are common sights in

Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Imports of wheat dropped sharply in the last six months of 1945, shrinking from 101,244 tons in July to 73,686 tons in September and 38,654 tons in December. As is shown in the table, total imports decreased from 1,200,937 tons in 1944 to 1,090,327 tons in 1945, and wheat consumption decreased from 1,473,925 tons to 1,465,140 tons during the same period. Wheat flour imports, on the other hand, increased from 72,841 tons in 1944 to 141,693 tons in 1945. The average price paid per ton of wheat rose from 539 cruzeiros in 1941 to 741 cruzeiros in 1943 and 1,123 cruzeiros in 1945.

Years	National production (wheat)	Imports		Apparent consumption of wheat
		Wheat	Wheat flour	
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
1938 .....	161, 366	1, 037, 160	42, 982	1, 255, 835
1939 .....	101, 107	966, 835	33, 738	1, 112, 926
1940 .....	101, 739	857, 937	18, 029	983, 708
1941 .....	231, 454	894, 895	17, 962	1, 149, 054
1942 .....	214, 435	945, 733	15, 610	1, 180, 981
1943 .....	195, 911	1, 042, 601	25, 588	1, 272, 658
1944 .....	175, 867	1, 200, 937	72, 841	1, 473, 925
1945 .....	*185, 889	1, 090, 327	141, 693	1, 465, 140

\* Estimate.

### *New air routes from the United States to Latin America*

On May 17, 1946, the Civil Aeronautics Board of the United States approved the applications of several United States airlines for new routes to Latin America, as follows:

From El Paso, Tex., to Monterrey (Mexico) and Mexico City; Fort Worth-Dallas to San Antonio (Texas), Monterrey, and Mexico City—*American Airlines*.

San Antonio and Laredo, Texas, to Monterrey and Mexico City; Houston to Asunción (Paraguay), via Habana, Balboa (C. Z.), Bogotá, Quito, Guayaquil, Lima, and La Paz (Bolivia), and

from Asunción to Buenos Aires, and to Rio de Janeiro via São Paulo—*Braniff Airways*.

Houston and New Orleans to Habana, and from Habana to San Juan (P. R.), via Camagüey, Port-au-Prince, and Ciudad Trujillo, and to Caracas, Venezuela, via Kingston, Aruba, and Curaçao—*Chicago and Southern Airlines*.

Miami-Habana and Tampa-Habana, extending New York-Miami and New York-Tampa runs—*National Airlines*.

Houston and New Orleans to Mérida (Mexico) and Guatemala City; New York to San Juan (P. R.)—*Pan American Airways*.

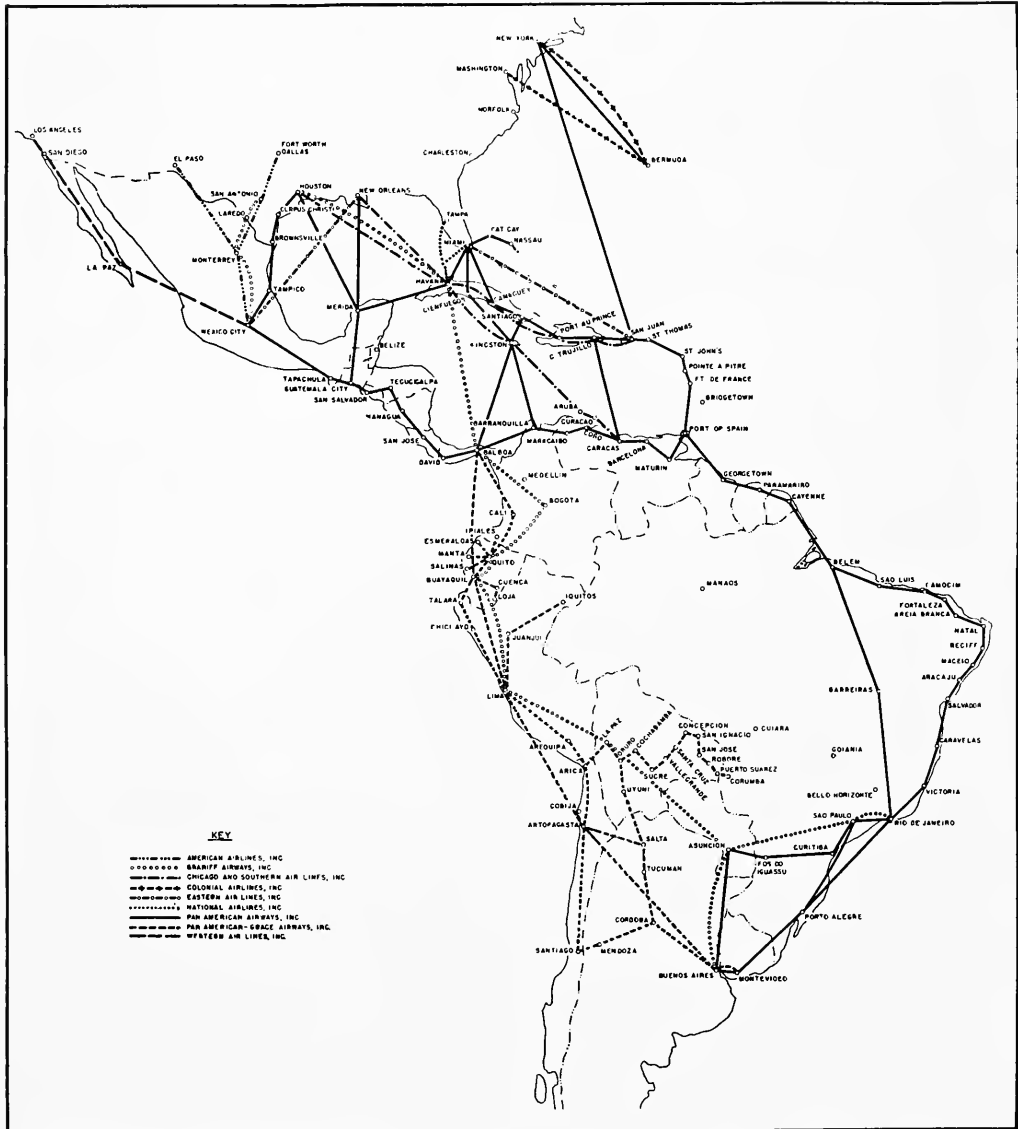
Nonstop service between Balboa, Canal Zone, and Buenos Aires, via Guayaquil, Lima, and Antofagasta; Buenos Aires to Montevideo, en route to or from Santiago (Chile), Salta (Argentina), or points north—*Pan American-Grace Airways*.

Los Angeles to San Diego (Calif.), La Paz (Mexico), and Mexico City—*Western Air Lines*.

New Orleans to Mexico City; Miami to San Juan (P. R.)—*Eastern Air Lines*.

Pan American Airways will also serve São Paulo between Rio de Janeiro and

Porto Alegre (Brazil); and Caracas instead of La Guaira (Venezuela) thus saving a twenty-mile drive to the capital. Both Pan American Airways and Pan American-Grace Airways will serve Balboa instead of Cristóbal (C. Z.).



Courtesy of the Civil Aeronautics Board

## LATIN AMERICAN ROUTES OF UNITED STATES FLAG CARRIERS

### *Balance of payments in Colombia*

In 1945 Colombia's balance of payments took a downward turn, reflecting the changed conditions of the year in which the war ended. According to the *Revista del Banco de la República*, the favorable balances that began in 1942, caused in large part by severe restrictions on Colombia's import trade, were reduced in 1945 to \$14,670,000 U. S. cy. As soon as trade could be resumed in part, Colombia's imports reacted to needs of the national economy that had been long denied, and the value of goods imported in 1945 was \$138,000,000, or \$50,000,000 more than in 1944.

The following table shows the compensated balance during the six years of the war, a period that began with unfavorable balances in 1940 and 1941 when the United States had still not begun to participate actively in the war. Colombia's balances for the years 1942, 1943, and 1944 were extraordinarily favorable, for

in those years, with the United States in the war, Colombian imports suffered a sharp decrease. In 1945 the cessation of hostilities and the initiation of the processes of readjustment in international trade relations permitted Colombia to import 57 percent more than in the preceding year, with the result, as stated above, that the balance of payments, while still favorable, was so small in comparison with the immediately preceding years.

The table shows that in the 6 years 1940-45 Colombia acquired a favorable balance of \$154,620,000, which speaks clearly of the course of Colombian economy during that time. But notwithstanding the difficulties of importation, the trade balance for the 6 years was an unfavorable one to the amount of \$16,000,000 (\$524 million paid for imports, against \$508 million received for exports).

However, if account is taken of the fact that other payments abroad during the period in question (government, Colom-

### *Compensated Balance, 1940-45*

[In thousands of dollars]

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	Total
<b>PURCHASE OF GOLD AND EXCHANGE</b>							
Exportation of merchandise.	46, 748	57, 362	76, 742	111, 045	102, 924	113, 557	508, 378
New capital.....	15, 400	15, 005	21, 441	32, 023	38, 299	54, 263	176, 431
Gold purchases.....	23, 535	27, 603	32, 915	19, 153	18, 857	17, 827	139, 890
Total.....	85, 683	99, 970	131, 098	162, 221	160, 080	185, 647	824, 699
<b>AUTHORIZED SALE OF EXCHANGE</b>							
Importation of merchandise.	73, 278	81, 965	67, 922	74, 771	88, 250	138, 192	524, 378
National Government.....	6, 027	6, 326	3, 786	10, 926	3, 866	2, 254	33, 185
Residents abroad.....	4, 365	3, 769	5, 494	5, 417	7, 597	7, 970	34, 612
Other.....	9, 580	8, 329	9, 736	12, 874	14, 824	22, 561	77, 904
Total.....	93, 250	100, 389	86, 938	103, 988	114, 537	170, 977	670, 079
Balance.....	-7, 567	-419	+44, 160	+58, 233	+45, 543	+14, 670	+154, 620

bians living abroad, and miscellaneous) totaled \$146,000,000, and that gold production totaled almost \$140,000,000, it is apparent that the country was able to make up its trade deficit and to cover part of payments abroad with exchange resulting from the importation of foreign capital.

Direct investments of foreign capital in Colombia have been a highly important item in recent years; they have been, in fact, the real source of the unusual surpluses in the balance of payments of the last four years. In 1945 they represented 29 percent of the total. But in view of the fact that such funds can constitute only a temporary income, there is urgent need for creating new export lines that will be in full stride when the inevitable future decrease occurs in the present current of foreign investments in the country. This need is the more urgent when it is considered that the prospects indicate that gold prices in import markets will tend constantly to increase—an increase determined at present by the scarcity of merchandise in Colombia's principal supply market, the United States; by the pressure which Latin American demands are exerting, since at present Latin American nations in general have considerable gold balances and exchange accumulated during the war years; and finally, by increased production costs occasioned by monetary inflation. If to this process of increased costs of imports is added the increase in their volume by reason of the industrialization now occurring in Colombia, it may be deduced, according to the Bank of the Republic, that the normal tendency of the coming years will be toward a considerable increase in the value of imports which, during the first few years, will have to be met with the surplus left over from the war years.

### *Pioneering in western Colombia*

Immigrants may be accepted up to 20 percent of the total number of settlers selected for the San Juan agricultural colony now being laid out on unoccupied lands near Colombia's Pacific coast. Such immigrants as are accepted must be geographically distributed among the Colombian settlers so that there shall be no local communities with ties abroad.

Near the mouth of the San Juan River a tract of land amounting to almost 150,000 acres has been set aside for the colony. Each settler will be assigned a plot of between 50 and 250 acres, which he must cultivate in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of National Economy. One plot has been set aside for the building of a future town, and a larger area is reserved to be used as a demonstration farm.

Colonists will be selected from among the applicants on the basis of health, character, and fitness for the work of turning this wild land into productive farms. Road building and surveying are to begin at once. Next year the government hopes to be ready to place the colonists and to provide each family with a house and small clearing, credits for the tools, seed, and stock that will enable them to get to work, medical services and drugs, and also, during the first 6 months of their labors, a small cash allowance.

### *Mexican petroleum industry*

Mexico now consumes more refined gasoline than it produces, according to a survey of the Mexican petroleum industry just completed by the Division of Financial and Economic Information of the Pan American Union.

This outstripping of production by consumption is due primarily to the rapid motorization of Mexican transportation

and other industrial demands, which have pushed the consumption of refined gasoline in Mexico from 12 million cubic feet in 1935 to 34 million in 1944. However, it is also due to some extent to a decline in output which, from a high of 40 million cubic feet in 1937, dropped to 23 million in 1940, and in 1944 totaled 30 million cubic feet.

Crude petroleum is shown to have fluctuated between a maximum of 263 million cubic feet in 1937 and a low of 195 million feet in 1942. Fuel oil output experienced a 23 percent increase in the period covered by the survey, rising from 100 million cubic feet in 1935 to 123 million feet in 1944.

### *Panama builds*

During 1945-46 the Republic of Panama has been experiencing the largest building boom in its history. Throughout the whole country both public and private construction activity is being carried forward on an extensive scale.

In Panama City work is advancing rapidly on the new National Airport, expected to be completed by September 1, and the plans and model for the new "El Panamá" hotel have been shown to President Jiménez and his Cabinet. The contract has been awarded for the construction of the first section of the government's low-cost housing community in the Vista Hermosa district, in which living quarters for 100 families will be provided at an average cost of \$2,692 for each family unit. A committee has been appointed to propose sites for a new public market. The name of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt will be given to the new national library soon to be built by the government. In the Santo Tomás Hospital grounds a 250-bed ward for tuberculous patients will be erected, replacing

the \$4,000,000 project for the construction of an entirely new hospital ruled out by medical authorities. Funds are being raised for new buildings at the Inter-American University.

The Bank of Urbanization and Rehabilitation is drawing up plans for four apartment buildings of 5 stories each in Colón, to house 200 families. On May 23 the new Colón Chapter headquarters of the National Red Cross was formally dedicated. Constructed at a cost of \$100,000, it is rated as one of the finest government structures in the city and the only one of its kind in the Republic. It is designed to accommodate all activities of the local chapter, including a day nursery and breakfast-lunch room for school children.

A plan to complete the seventeen miles still lacking in the Colón-Portobelo Highway was announced by the President on May 9, 1946. The Government will provide engineers, equipment and materials for laying the roadway and landowners whose property will be traversed by the road agreed to grant right-of-way. The section to be covered extends from Rio Alejandro to Portobelo.

The Panama Canal has been authorized to start work on the reclamation of the mangrove swamp area in Colón. The cost of the entire project, which will add a large tract of land for the development of the Atlantic-side city, will be under \$1,500,000. The work will take about 8 months, beginning June 1, and another 8 months will be required for the construction of a new seawall.

Contracts have been awarded for the construction of at least 50 schools at a total cost of \$1,000,000. This represents part of a national program to build 400 schools throughout the provinces at a minimum cost of \$3,000,000. A new normal school for Santiago is included in this contract, and the town will also have



a new government building in which all public offices will be located. In Las Tablas construction will soon begin on a modern tourist hotel, and Los Santos is restoring its old church to its colonial appearance.

A new and modern ice plant has been installed in the city of Chitre, Province of Herrera. Freezing capacity of the plant is 12,000 pounds every 24 hours. Company officials plan improvements totaling about \$100,000 as soon as additional machinery becomes available.

Between February 15 and April 6 62 artesian wells, of which 48 are located in the central Provinces, were drilled, and the rural electrification project with its central plant at Aguadulce is under way.—E. H. B.

### *Mexican Securities Commission*

Mexico now has a National Securities Commission, similar in purpose and scope to the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States. Created by a decree published April 16, 1946, and effective 30 days later, the Commission is composed of one representative each for the Department of the Treasury and Public Credit, the Department of National Economy, the Bank of Mexico, the National Banking Commission, the Mexican Stock Exchange, the Association of Bankers, and Nacional Financiera (a government financing institution). It is expected that the establishment of the Commission, which will generally supervise offers of stocks and bonds at home and abroad, interest rates on bonds issued by financial companies, and investments in securities by insurance companies, will strengthen the Mexican stock market and Mexican credit in general, as well as encourage long-term investments by private individuals and business firms.

### *Colombian-Ecuadorian-Venezuelan merchant marine*

Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador signed the constitution of the Greater Colombia Merchant Marine (*Flota Mercante Grancolombiana*) on June 8, 1946, at Quinta Bolívar, in Bogotá. The headquarters of the Flota Mercante will be in Bogotá with sectional executive boards in Caracas and Quito.

Delegations of the three republics began to meet in conferences early in January 1946, and the constitution just signed was drawn up in Caracas last April. The corporation will have an initial capital of \$20,000,000, of which Venezuela and Colombia will subscribe 45 percent each, while Ecuador will subscribe 10 percent. There will be "A" and "B" classes of shares in the company, of which "A" stock, comprising 20 percent of the total capital, is to be purchased by the respective governments and semi-official entities, while "B" stock will be subscribed by private investors. At the time of the April conference it was announced that all "A" stock had been subscribed as follows: National Coffee Growers Federation of Colombia, 315 shares; Agricultural and Livestock Bank of Venezuela, 315 shares; and Ecuadorean Maritime Organization, 70 shares.

The Caracas conference also made the following recommendations: (1) that the Governments establish a route in the Pacific, service between their Caribbean ports and North American ports, and service between their Caribbean ports and Europe; (2) that the Government of Venezuela organize a merchant marine school for the training of personnel; (3) that chartered vessels be used until the company is more experienced; (4) that foreign crews be hired while national crews are being trained.

Immediately after the signing of the constitution on June 8, the first general assembly of shareholders was called to elect the five-member Board of Directors. Dr. Gonzalo Parra León of Venezuela was elected chairman of the Board.

The Board of Directors then in turn proceeded to elect the first general manager of the Greater Colombia Merchant Fleet. At the suggestion of the Venezuelan delegation, the Minister of Public Works of Colombia, Ingeniero Álvaro Díaz, was chosen for the post.

It is expected that the Flota Mercante Grancolombiana will be in a position to carry about 400,000 tons a year, or a little more than 20 percent of the total import and export trade of the three countries, exclusive of petroleum. The life of the association is fixed at 50 years, subject to extension at the end of that time.

### *Ecuadorean Indian Congress*

The Second Ecuadorean Indian Congress convened in Quito last February, eighteen months after the first meeting. Delegates were sent from the Ecuadorean Federation of Indians, trade unions, cooperatives, and various independent tribes.

The newly elected President of the Congress is Dolores Cacuango, who is also Secretary of the Ecuadorean Federation of Indians. As spokesman for the Federation she stated that the Indians must be united in purpose if they expect to obtain fair treatment and a decent way of life. Schools are not their only needs; they need medical aid and better living conditions.

A delegate from the Cayapas, a tribe from Esmeraldas Province, said that they wanted a school, medical services, protection from hostile peoples, and better pay for their work on canoes.

The Federation of Indians, created in August 1944 by the First Indian Congress,

has been instrumental in helping the Indians acquire land. Its most notable achievement was the purchase of the Tigua hacienda, which is now the first Ecuadorean Indian cooperative farm.

For the first time in Ecuadorean history, the National Assembly of 1944-45 had a representative elected by the Indians themselves. They now have a voice in laws passed for their benefit, and their influence has already been felt in recent social and economic legislation. The Indian Congress has stated that the Indians expect to accomplish their aims by legal means, instead of by revolt. The latter has led only to death and economic destruction for the Indians; the former will make for a progressive Ecuador, with equal opportunity for all.

### *Departmental administration law, Guatemala*

In order to bring legislation into harmony with present government policies, a law bearing the date of April 27, 1946, revises the statute of May 2, 1934, on the administration of the 22 departments into which Guatemala is divided. The President will appoint a governor (instead of a *jefe político*, or political head) to administer each of these subdivisions. An important provision of the law stipulates that all governors shall be civilians and that they can hold no other government office nor any position connected with the military, and that they can engage neither directly nor indirectly in any profession, industry, or business in the respective departments where they are stationed.

Among their many duties are to promote departmental industry, trade and mining, supervise and place the unemployed, help settle labor conflicts, see that labor laws are enforced, devote especial attention to anything pertaining to social welfare, and

see that transportation companies duly carry out the terms of their contracts.

Agriculture, communications and public works, public education, the police, finance, and public health all come within the governors' purview.

### *Civil service in Panama*

In conformity with Article 269 of the new national Constitution of Panama, a Presidential Decree of April 30, 1946 established a Committee on the Organization of Civil Service. The Committee, composed of three members and a Secretary appointed by the President, will study government employment and present a plan for civil service regulations based on provisions of the Constitution. This work will include classification of public employees who will be included under civil service, grading of these employees so that each is appointed to a position within his grade, and drawing up aptitude tests and general knowledge examinations. Any measures necessitated by the establishment of civil service for the reorganization of public offices are to be recommended to the President. The Committee has access to information and data of the Ministries and state offices, and to official files. A civil-service expert designated by the President will advise the Committee.

### *Venezuela fights housing shortage*

In an additional attempt to alleviate the housing shortage, Venezuela is encouraging private capital to invest in the construction of rental properties. Official annual interest rates have been set on all types of edifices built after February 16, 1946, for investment purposes. This control will be in effect for 5 years. The rates are as follows:

Houses valued at less than 40,000 bolívares, 9 percent.

Houses valued at 40,000 to 60,000 bolívares, 8 percent.

Houses valued at more than 60,000 bolívares, 7 percent.

Apartment houses, 11 percent.

Commercial and industrial property, 12 to 14 percent.

(One bolívar equals \$0.30 U. S. cy.)

### *We see by the papers that—*

- On April 1, 1946, a new "super-duper" bus line began operations between Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua City, capital of the State of Chihuahua in *Mexico*, says *Foreign Commerce Weekly*. The Línea de Coches Salón del Noroeste, LCS, as it is called, schedules three daily trips each way on the 236-mile run made in 7 hours with five stops. The cost of 18.15 pesos (\$3.75) includes one meal served in the coach while en route. Equipment now consists of 5 coaches, the number to be increased to 8 when more are available. The coaches were made in Mexico, using chassis from the United States, and have a seating capacity of 32 persons. Each is equipped with a washroom and a small kitchen, as well as a 2-way radio set for direct communication with the terminals while en route.

- In the middle of May the press of the *Colombian* capital announced that the value of buildings for which permits had been granted in the previous 5 months had broken all records. The total was 27,000,000 pesos, or about \$15,400,000. The two largest edifices will be an apartment house of 12 stories to be erected on the American model and the building of the Colombian Savings Bank; both will use structural steel. Since many other business blocks, office buildings, and apartment houses are also under way, central Bogotá is rapidly taking on a changed aspect.

- On March 26, 1946, representatives of the *Argentine Merchant Air Fleet* and the *Chilean National Air Line* signed at Santiago an agreement on the interchange of technical services. It is expected to make possible within a short time commercial flights between their respective countries. Buenos Aires and Santiago will be 3½ hours apart, if no stop is made in Mendoza. The Argentine Air Fleet will have planes equipped with radar.
- The *Argentine Government* is planning the construction of six major airport projects throughout the republic. These will be in addition to the new national airport at Eziza, in the province of Buenos Aires, and the modernization of the Presidente Rivadavia airport at Morón. The new airports will be located at Córdoba, Salta, Resistencia, Comodoro Rivadavia, Formosa, and Clorinda, and will cost altogether about \$875,000.
- *Guatemala* has decided to join the International American Institute for the Protection of Childhood, which has headquarters at Montevideo.
- The *Costa Rican* government has bought two tracts of land, about 1,100 acres in combined extent, in the Province of Alajuela. The land will be sold in parcels not larger than 50 acres to poor farmers of the region, preferably the present occupants. They will be given easy purchase terms by the National Bank of Costa Rica, but must pledge themselves for 4 years to raise essential food crops.
- *Colombia* now requires the study of forestry in all agricultural and rural normal schools, and its city and rural schools must have a plot of ornamental, fruit, and forest trees.
- A special export tax on coffee, cacao, sugar, and molasses has been levied by the *Dominican Republic*. The tax will be 3 percent on coffee and cacao, and ½ percent on sugar and molasses, payable at the time of shipment. The money is to be used exclusively for port improvements.
- Manila hemp is being grown by the United Fruit Company in *Guatemala*, *Honduras*, *Costa Rica*, and *Panama*. In Costa Rica alone there are 11,500 acres planted to this valuable fiber, which was of great strategic importance during the war. The plant is related to the banana, and looks very much like it.
- More than 200 head of pure-bred Holstein cattle are to be imported into *Ecuador* from the *United States* by the National Development Bank in an endeavor to improve the number and quality of dairy stock.
- It is said that *United States* port cities on the Gulf of Mexico are now receiving about 80 percent of the normal volume of bananas, but because of shipping losses during the war, sufficient boats are not yet available to revive the regular routes to the east coast. The bananas reaching New York in May were about 40 percent of normal supplies. They were shipped by rail from Gulf ports.
- A severe drought early this year in the *Chilean* Provinces of Coquimbo and Atacama obliged the government to appropriate \$40,000 to buy food for the sufferers, promote public works, and obtain work in the nitrate fields for the unemployed.
- On January 21, 1946, the *Brazilian* Government issued a decree outlining plans for an extensive national telegraphic system in that country. The plans include provisions for (1) a basic system of wire communication connecting the principal points of the republic where it is practicable and advisable to use land lines, and (2) a basic network of radio circuits covering areas not serviced by the system of wire

communication, and duplicating the latter in the principal points of traffic convergence where they will provide alternate means of communication in emergency situations. The present land and radio circuits of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs are operating at peak capacity and are inadequate for handling the increasing demands.

- As announced by a decree of March 14, 1946, *Venezuela* has ratified the convention which created the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences.

- A Constitutional Congress was elected in *Haiti* on May 18, 1946. This Congress, which is reported to consist of 56 Democrats out of a total of 58 members, will elect the President.

- An important change occurred in the political situation in the Republic of *Panama* with the unification of five factions into a single, national Liberal Party at a grand assembly held on May 12, 1946. At this meeting the Liberal Renovador, Doctrinario, Demócrata, Liberal Nacional and Liberal Unido parties voted themselves out of existence and into the one Liberal Party. Under the leadership of Francisco Arias Paredes as president, the Liberals are expected to play an important part in the 3-month session of the National Assembly which began on May 15.

- The Ministry of Public Instruction and Social Welfare of *Uruguay* has recently undertaken the establishment of its own library. It aims to build up an adequate specialized collection of both national and foreign educational, cultural, and sociological books and publications.

- *Argentina's* National Commission on Apprenticeship and Vocational Orientation has been authorized to set aside 145,000 pesos annually for the purpose of offering 100 scholarships each year to young people

between 16 and 20 of the other American republics who wish to serve industrial apprenticeships in Argentina. Five scholarships, each paying 100 pesos a month, will be offered to each of the 20 countries. The Commission will also pay transportation expenses each way at the request of the respective governments.

- The Institute of International Education and Pan American World Airways are again jointly sponsoring Pan American Airways Travel Fellowships. These fellowships, one each for travel to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, and Venezuela for American students, and one from each of the Latin American countries to the United States, will take care of costs for Clipper transportation to the selected school, and return. The choice of candidates is made for Pan American Airway by the Institute, 2 West Forty-fifth Street, New York 19, N. Y.

- A cooperative agreement, similar to those signed with other American Republics, has been signed between the *Dominican Republic* and the Inter-American Educational Foundation. The agreement will be in effect for three years, and has renewal provisions. It provides for the development of physical education and vocational guidance programs in primary, secondary, and normal schools.

- The *Guatemalan* Institute of Anthropology, Ethnography, and History has been created by executive decree. It is expected to improve museum organization and administration, coordinate the agencies engaged in supervising archeological treasures, promote ethnographical and historical research, and foster the study of folklore.

- On April 1, 1946, the Mexico City daily newspaper *El Universal* announced the award of the fourth annual Miguel

Lanz Duret literary prize of 1,000 pesos, the winner being Captain Gustavo Rueda Medina of the Mexican Navy, for his novel *Las islas también son nuestras* (The islands are also ours).

Captain Rueda Medina, now forty years old, was born in Aguascalientes, graduated from the Naval School of Veracruz, and during his career as a naval officer has been in command of various vessels of the Mexican Navy. At present he is on duty as an aide to the Secretary of the Navy. For several years he has been writing articles for papers and periodicals and his first book *¿Quién tiene un sacacorchos?* (Who has a corkscrew?) was published only a few days before announcement of the award for his second book. The prize novel is based on experiences of the author when he was in command of naval activities at Isla Mujeres, in the Caribbean near Yucatán.

- Several important new cultural institutions have recently been created in *Peru*, including a National Conservatory of Music and a Museum of Peruvian Culture in Lima, the new Regional School of Music in Trujillo, and the Eastern Polytechnic Institute in Iquitos, capital of the Department of Loreto. The Museum of Peruvian Culture was established so that exhibits representing all the various epochs of Peruvian history may be shown in one place, thus revealing the fundamental unity running through them and making possible the identification of a "real Peruvian culture." The Eastern Polytechnic Institute will train the youth of the eastern section of the country in the efficient exploitation of the natural riches of that region.

- The *Peruvian* Government has granted permission to the Institute of Andean

Research to carry on geographical, ethnological, and archaeological investigations in the Virú Valley in the Department of La Libertad. The Institute plans to study the processes of cultural change in this section of the Peruvian coast through all the periods of its history. Included in the project will be intensive studies of the ancient irrigation systems of the area.

- A recent presidential decree in *Brazil* provided for the creation of the University of Bahia. Composing the new university at the outset will be a School of Medicine with annexed Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy, a Polytechnic School, and Schools of Law, Philosophy, and Economic Sciences. Other institutions of higher learning now existing in Bahia which may eventually be incorporated into the University are the School of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine, the School of Fine Arts, and the Institute of Music.

- The University of *Brazil*, until now a Government-operated institution, has been granted autonomy in managing its administrative, financial, teaching, and disciplinary affairs. This University now includes Schools of Medicine, Law, Dentistry, Philosophy, Architecture, Economic Sciences and Pharmacy, Engineering, Fine Arts, Music, Mines and Metallurgy, Chemistry, and Physical Education and Sports, the Ana Nery School of Nursing, and Institutes of Electrotechnics, Psychology, Psychiatry, and Biophysics.

- Fifty *Colombian* second lieutenants are continuing their military aviation studies at *United States* airfields.

- A group of *Guatemalan* Boy Scouts made an enjoyable trip to *Mexico* last April at the invitation of the Mexican Scouts.

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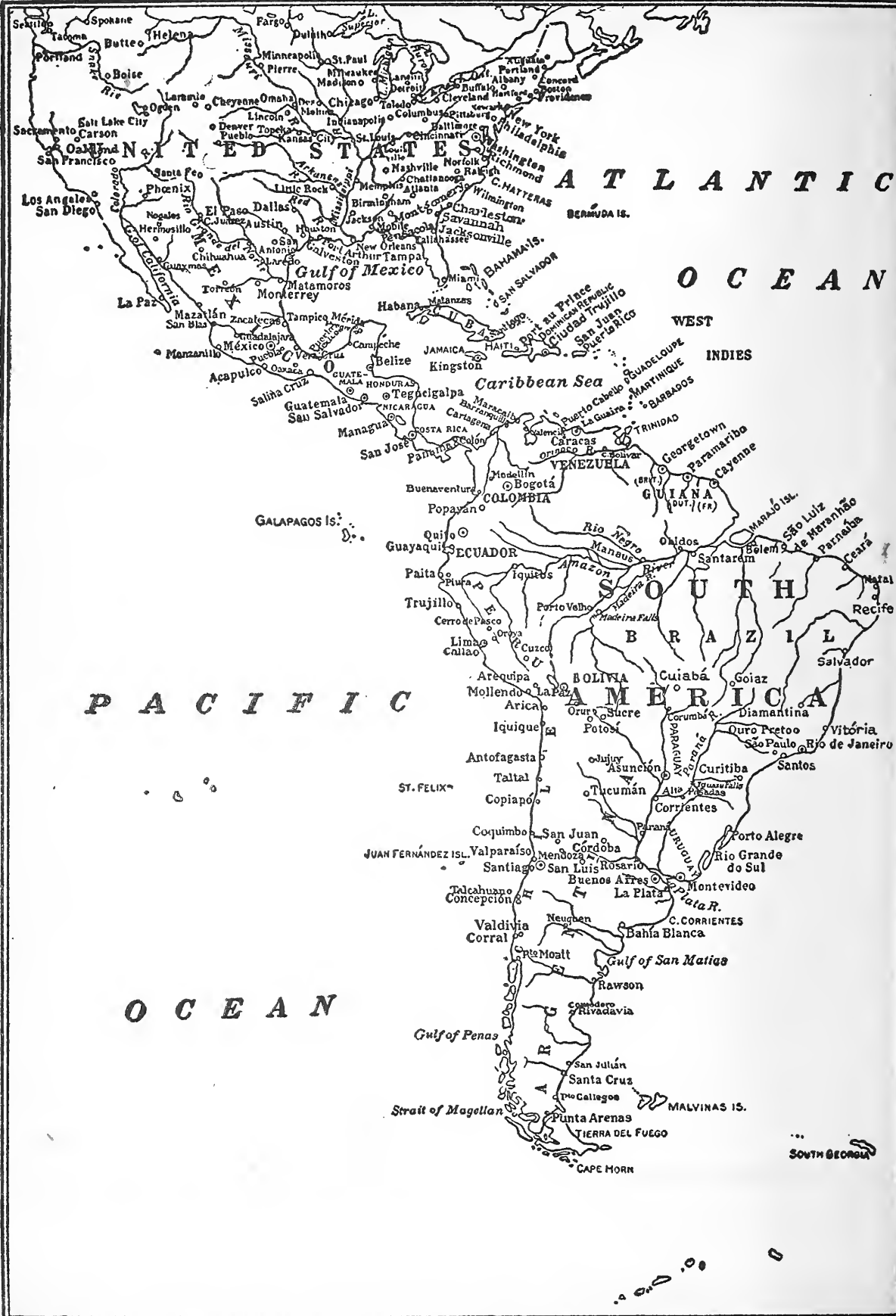
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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.

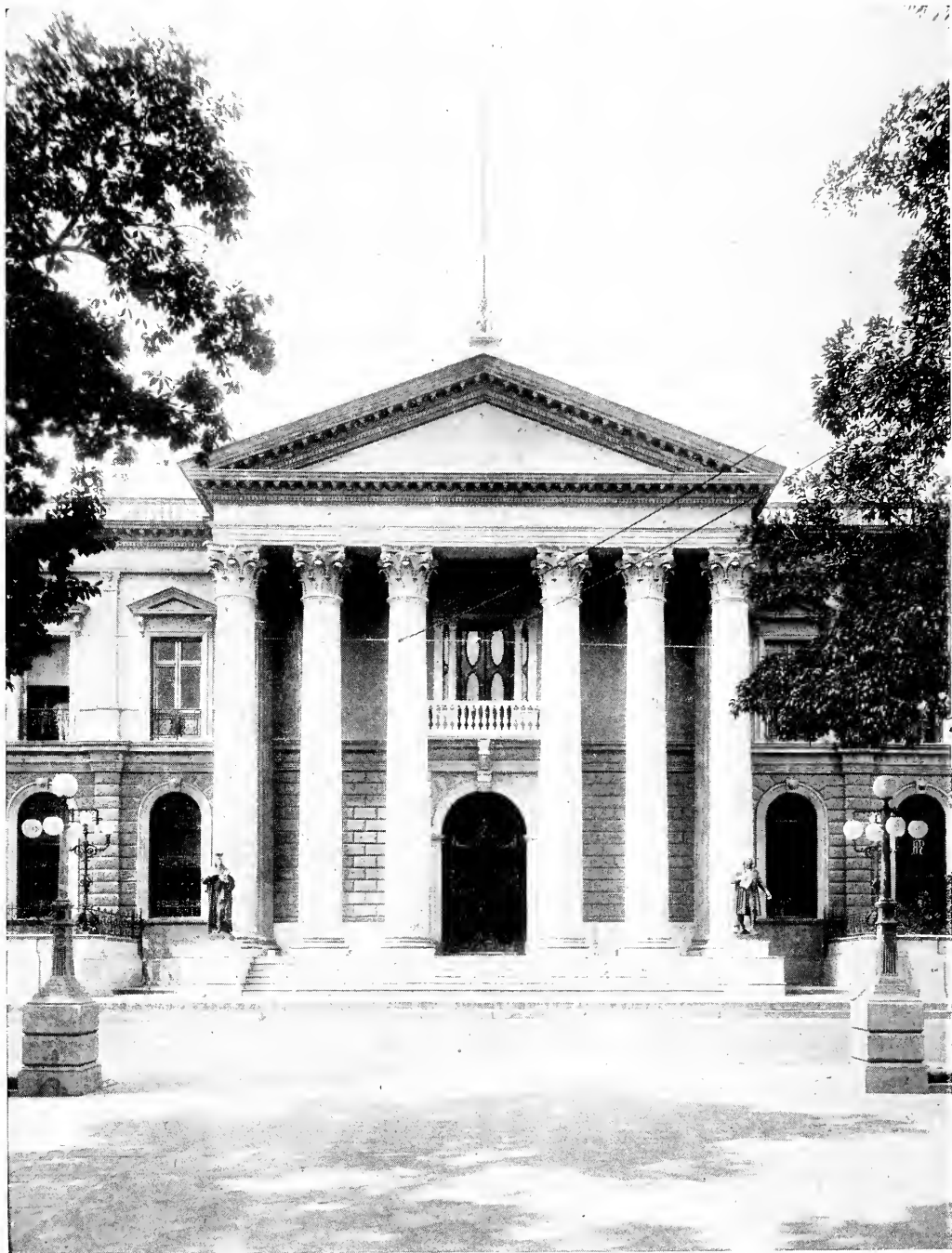


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THE NATIONAL PALACE, SAN SALVADOR

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 9



SEPTEMBER 1946

## To San Salvador on its 400th Anniversary

HÉCTOR DÁVID CASTRO

*Ambassador of El Salvador to the United States and Representative of El Salvador on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

SITUATED in a fertile valley framed by mountains, the city of San Salvador, capital of the Republic of El Salvador, has more than 100,000 inhabitants and is from every viewpoint the true metropolis of the country.

San Salvador lies about twenty-three miles from the Pacific Ocean at a little more than 2,200 feet above sea level. This altitude and the natural barrier help to give the city an agreeable climate, less humid than that along the coast. The mountains heighten the beauty of the landscape and protect San Salvador from the full fury of the hurricanes that visit it once in a long time. Life is peaceful, although people work hard. The communications with the rest of the republic are excellent. Railroads unite the capital with the other important cities of the coun-

try and with the neighboring Republic of Guatemala.

This is modern San Salvador,<sup>1</sup> which on September 27, 1946, will celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the day it was raised to the category of city by royal decree of Charles V of Spain. Its name reflects the missionary character of the Spanish conquistadors, who thus from the beginning placed the capital under the protection of the Savior of the World.

Historians' opinions differ on the true date of the founding of San Salvador, as well as with regard to the person who should be known as its founder. Some believe that it was Diego de Alvarado, who by command of Jorge de Alvarado founded San Salvador at the place called La Bermuda near the present city of

<sup>1</sup> *Holy Savior.*





SALVADOR CASTANEDA CASTRO  
PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR

Suchitoto on April 1, 1528. Others claim that San Salvador was indeed founded by Diego de Alvarado, but in December 1524, while still others believe that the founder was Diego de Holguín, who established the city about April 1, 1525, under orders of Pedro de Alvarado. Diego de Holguín is generally recognized as the first mayor of San Salvador.

In spite of these discrepancies, there are two points on which historians agree. These are: 1, the city known as San Salvador was for many years located in a place called La Bermuda, and 2, by 1539, at the latest, it was definitely located in Las Hamacas Valley, its present site.

San Salvador is situated at 13° 42' north latitude and 89° 12' west longitude. It is of course a tropical city, with a climate ameliorated by the factors already men-

tioned. The average annual temperature is 73.4 degrees F.; it is calculated that on the warmest day the temperature reaches 89.6 degrees, and on the coldest 60.8.

The seasons are not very different from each other, for the weather is never very warm nor very cold. The fields are always covered with verdure; the trees that lose their leaves immediately put forth new ones, and generally this process escapes all but the most attentive eyes. The most marked natural change is produced by the rains, which begin the last of May. They continue to the first half of November, and the remaining six months, between November 15 and May 15, are the dry season, in which there is usually no rain or at most an exceptional shower. Fields grow dusty and foliage loses most of its beauty, which is restored when the first rains



HÉCTOR DAVID CASTRO

Ambassador of El Salvador in the United States and Representative of his country on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.



come in May. The annual rainfall is 72 inches; the humidity varies from a minimum of 29 percent to a maximum of 95, the average being 73.

San Salvador has been the center of historical events of great importance. Here the first movement for the independence of Central America took place in 1811, and this patriotic upsurge was repeated in 1814. Hardly had independence from Spain been achieved on September 15, 1821, before El Salvador was obliged to oppose with its scanty forces the annexation of its territory to the Mexican Empire of Agustín de Iturbide. It was the city councils of San Salvador and San Vicente, another Salvadorean city, which bravely maintained this opposition to foreign encroachment, and it was in San Salvador on the memorable date of January 11, 1822, that a formal protest was drawn up against the incorporation of Central America into the Mexican Empire, an incorporation already accepted by other provinces of the former captaincy-general of Guatemala. Here too there was or-

ganized the Government Junta of El Salvador, which had as president the Reverend Doctor José Matías Delgado and as members Manuel José Arce, Juan Manuel Rodríguez, Domingo Antonio Lara, Leandro Fagoaga, the Reverend Miguel José Castro, Antonio José Cañas, Sixto Pineda, Juan de Dios Mayorga, José Antonio Escolán and Ramón Meléndez. Two days after it was organized, that is, on January 13, 1822, the same Junta appointed Colonel Manuel José Arce Commander General of the province, with Antonio José Cañas as his second in command.

After various military actions in which these valiant leaders and the patriotic forces under them fought manfully, the Government Junta of the Provinces of San Salvador began peace negotiations in order to avoid further bloodshed. These negotiations were entrusted to Antonio José Cañas and Juan Francisco de Sosa, who met with Colonel Felipe Collados and Luis González Ojeda, the representatives of the invaders. The arrangements



ONE OF SAN SALVADOR'S PLEASANT PARKS



Courtesy of Dr. Héctor Dávila Castro

### IN SAN SALVADOR'S BUSINESS SECTION

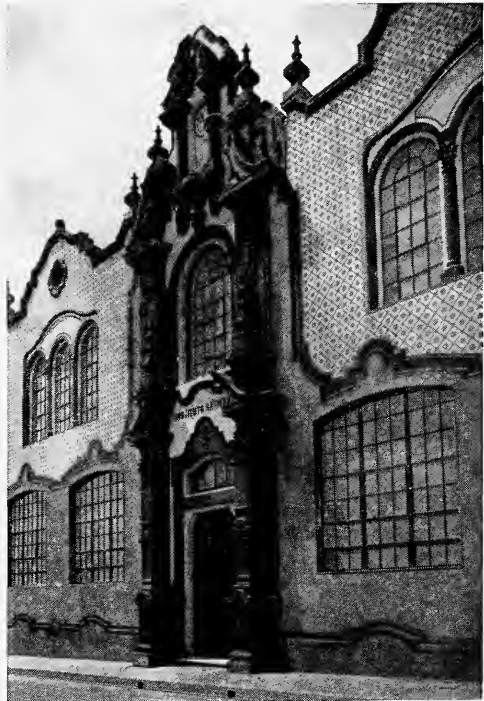
Above: There are many modern business blocks in the Salvadorean capital. Below: Roofed passages over sidewalks are welcome shelters from sun and rain.

were not successful, for although an agreement was signed and submitted to the approval of the governments of El Salvador and of the Mexican Empire, it was never put into effect. The Salvadorean Government Junta ratified it with amendments, but Emperor Iturbide ordered the Captain-General of Guatemala, General Vicente Filísola, to renew the attack on the province of San Salvador, if the latter did not unite with Mexico unconditionally on the basis of complete surrender to the imperial Mexican government. The Salvadorean congress was summoned and on November 12, 1822, in an effort to avert more fighting, it issued a decree agreeing to the conditional incorporation of El Salvador into the Mexican Empire, provided a representative government was established and all liberties were duly guaranteed. These conditions were not accepted. General Filísola handed over the captaincy-general of Guatemala to Colonel Felipe Collados and took under his personal command the armies that were to invade El Salvador. They had previously been led by Colonel Manuel Arzú, who had been severely defeated in his attack on the capital in June 1822.

When Filísola invaded the province, the forces under the command of Colonel Manuel José Arce fought bravely and defeated the Mexican army at Chinameca. This moved the San Miguel city council to support the cause of liberty and sign an act of adherence to the Government Junta. But the patriotic forces were very inferior in number and equipment to the invaders. It was clearly evident that it was only a question of time before the final failure of the heroic effort of the Salvadorean people to preserve their independence as the last bulwark of liberty in Central America. After a sanguinary battle in the towns of Mexicanos and Ayutuxtepeque, close to San Salvador, the capital had to be



STATUE OF LIBERTY



A SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR BOYS



Courtesy of Ministry of Development

THE BENJAMIN BLOOM HOSPITAL  
A modern and well equipped institution.



Courtesy of Ministry of Development

A HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR WORKERS

evacuated, and on February 9, 1823, the troops of General Filísola took possession. The remnants of the doughty Salvadorean army went to San Marcos and then to Zacatecoluca.

The spirit of resistance had not died in these men who, because of their enthusiasm and love of liberty, planned a union with the independence party of Granada in the Republic of Nicaragua, so as to continue

the struggle there. But this was unnecessary, for when all human resources had failed to maintain the political independence of the province of El Salvador, Divine Providence intervened to save the cause. Agustín de Iturbide, Emperor of Mexico, was forced to abdicate, and thus the sun of liberty rose again to shed its light on Salvadorean fields watered with the blood of patriots. The invading troops were obliged by the people to evacuate San Salvador, and El Salvador joined enthusiastically with the other provinces in summoning a National Constituent Assembly of Central America, which on July 1, 1823, solemnly declared that the Central American provinces were free and independent of Spain, Mexico, or any other power, and that they were not the patrimony of any person or family, but a political body to be called thenceforth the United Provinces of Central America. The same assembly appointed to the executive power General Manuel

José Arce, Antonio Rivera Cabeza, and Juan Vicente Villacorta, under the presidency of General Arce, a native of San Salvador. A legislative act prescribed the design of the flag and of the coat of arms of the new nation. These were kept by most of the republics of Central America even after their political separation. El Salvador has always had the grandiose motto of the Central American provinces, *God, Union, and Liberty*. This watchword appears on all communications between Salvadorean officials.

One of the most important historical acts of the United Provinces of Central America was the abolition of slavery, decreed by the National Constituent Assembly at the request of the Salvadorean deputy Father José Simeón Cañas, of Zacatecoluca.

After 1834 San Salvador became virtually the capital of the Federation of the Provinces of Central America, since on May 29 of that year it was decided to in-



Courtesy of Ministry of Development

#### THE STADIUM

Athletic sports take place on this field and horse racing at the Campo de Marte.

stall the Federal authorities there; but the National Congress did not confirm San Salvador as the Federal Capital until 1835. It continued to have this distinction until June 30, 1839, when the Federal Union had practically ceased to exist.

On February 2, 1841, the Constituent Assembly of El Salvador, meeting in the capital of the Republic, declared that El Salvador reassumed its national sovereignty as an independent republic. A new constitution, replacing that of 1824, was proclaimed on February 18, 1841. An important decree established the University of El Salvador and also La Asunción, the secondary school subordinate to it. Thus the Salvadorean capital has a university more than 100 years old, from which have been graduated many men eminent in the professions.

The city of San Salvador has of course shared all the vicissitudes of the country's political life, but its severest struggle has been with nature, for violent earthquakes

have leveled it on various occasions. Nevertheless, the energy and hard work of its people have raised it again from its ashes, more beautiful than before and better prepared to withstand the onslaughts of nature. Most of its buildings have only one story; construction methods continue to be improved so that edifices will be more resistant to temblors. What might be called the traditional type of Salvadorean house consists of structures surrounding interior patios, in which there are gardens and generally a central fountain. Around the patio are covered corridors which protect the rooms from the bright sun and at the same time provide a cool and pleasant place in the hottest hours.

There are several tree-planted parks and squares in the city, which offer the tired passerby a place to rest. At night bands give concerts which are very well attended.

The working day for government employees begins at seven in the morning and ends at one in the afternoon, thus permitting the servants of the nation to devote the rest of the day to their own affairs. Business establishments are not subject to this rule. They remain open in the afternoon except between noon and two o'clock, generally closing at five.

San Salvador, because of the frequency of the earthquakes which have damaged it so greatly at different periods of its history, has no buildings of the colonial period. At present there are many modern structures. The residential section in the northwestern part of the city is very attractive; the houses are built in different styles, some of which, it is true, are not particularly suited to the tropical climate. For sports there is the national stadium, and the old Campo de Marte, where horse-racing takes place.

Foreigners who visit San Salvador for the



Photograph by Ricardo Saguer, Jr.

#### SALVADOREANS ENJOY LIFE





Courtesy of Dr. Héctor David Castro

#### ONE OF SAN SALVADOR'S CLUBS

Clubs are always full of people and seem to increase in number all the time.

first time are struck by the great activity everywhere in the city; whether they visit clubs, government offices, or business houses, this is the most noticeable characteristic. Salvadoreans are hard-working and the great density of the population and the country's good internal communications intensify competition in every field. Clubs are always full of people, and seem to increase in number all the time. The oldest ones are the Casino, the International Club, and the Country Club, but there are new ones, such as the Athletic Club and the Casino for Young People.

Every year El Salvador celebrates in the capital a civic-religious festival beginning the latter part of July and ending August 6, the Feast of the Holy Savior. On this day, as on many saint's days, the eminently Catholic spirit of the Salvadorean people is revealed. San Salvador is an archbishop's see, and bishoprics center about the cities of Santa Ana, San Miguel, and San Vicente. The diplomatic representa-

tive of the Vatican in San Salvador has the rank of Nuncio.

Among the public buildings special mention should be made of the National Palace, the Cathedral, the Basilica, the architecture of which is very interesting, the Department of Communications, the Rosales Hospital, the Public Health Bureau, the Police Department, and various others. It would take too long to list the business blocks in modern style that are now frequent in the capital.

The people in San Salvador are known for their hospitality, which leaves a pleasant impression on foreigners who visit the city. The Pan American Highway and other important roads make the most interesting places in the country accessible to tourists in a short time.

Thus I bring to a close this brief enumeration of facts concerning the city of San Salvador directly or indirectly, and describing its historical development and the enterprising spirit of its people.

COAT OF ARMS



OF MANAGUA

# Managua and its First Centennial as a City

LUIS CUADRA CEA

*Director of the National Indian Institute*

MANAGUA, the beautiful capital of Nicaragua, joyfully celebrated last July its first centenary as a city, a title conferred upon it by legislative act of July 24, 1846. It was decided to make Managua the capital of the Republic so as to end the ancient and bitter rivalry that had existed since the War of Independence between the cities of Granada and León, both founded in 1524 by the Andalusian conquistador Captain Francisco Hernández de Córdoba, who chose León to be the capital of the new province of Nicaragua.

The 1846 politicians took into account the terrible condition of León because of the attacks made against it on January 24, 1845, by the troops of General Francisco Malespín. Eight hundred houses were burned and more than two thousand persons killed, many of them prominent men who were shot. This was the greatest disaster that the country had experienced and a more than sufficient reason why local passions would never completely

subside. It was necessary to end this deplorable state of affairs immediately. Furthermore, Managua's geographical position was conducive to making it the center of the country's economic, political, and social activities. Its location on the chief land route along the Pacific coast at the point where routes to the interior branch off allowed it to acquire little by little a natural superiority over the other cities of the republic, a superiority multiplied a hundredfold by modern means of communication.

For the citizens of Managua it was a truly moving moment when the first centennial of our city was celebrated. How many memories and hopes it recalled to us! At the same time, we were encouraged to pay our heartfelt tribute to our capital city with its beautiful tropical setting and its promising future among the capitals of the world.

Managua is a pre-Columbian town; its origin is lost in the night of history.





Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

## THE CITY HALL, MANAGUA

Archeological excavations carried out by the author show that the site which it occupies today was also the location chosen by some of the very first Nicaraguans who lived here at the end of the Pleistocene period, probably at least thirty thousand years ago. These unknown and uncivilized people left us only the prints of their feet in the volcanic rock, prints that may be seen today in the Archeological Station at Acahualinca, west of Managua. For many centuries after them there was a blank. Finally there arrived new indigenous tribes of unknown race and origin who left us clay artifacts of the most ancient type known in the Americas, including the archaic, which is found in great cultural areas of the continents. Thus after a sequence of blanks and waves of more or less dense populations that followed each other like the waves of the sea, we come to the time of the Spanish conquest in 1524, when Managua was a lively and extensive Indian city, "the most beautiful in the whole province," in the words of that great Spanish chronicler and



Photograph by Bachrach

GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA  
PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA



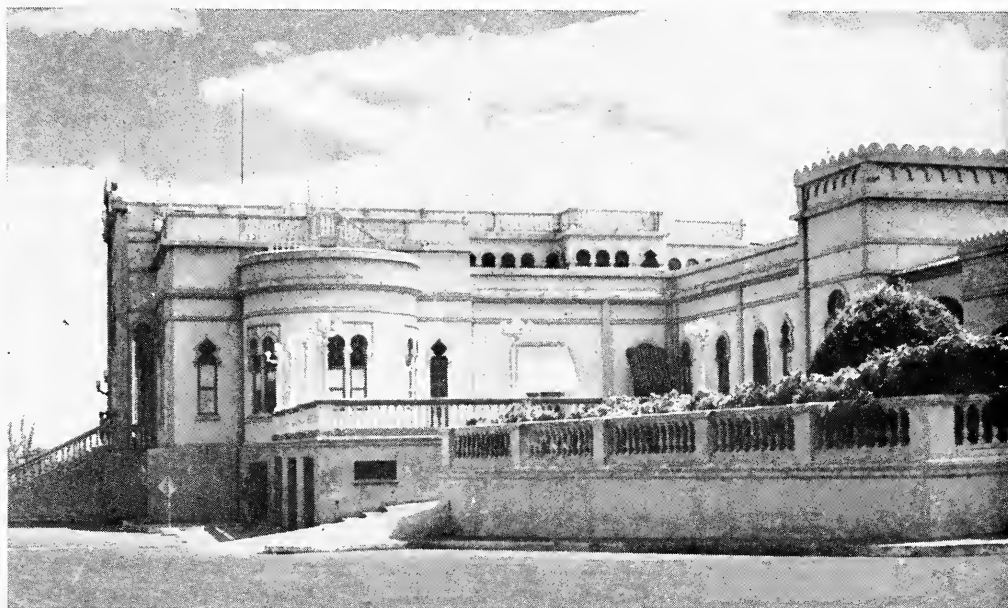
Aeme Photo

PRESIDENT TRUMAN  
WITH DR. GUILLERMO  
SEVILLA SACASA, AM-  
BASSADOR OF NICARA-  
GUA IN WASHINGTON  
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE  
GOVERNING BOARD OF  
THE PAN AMERICAN  
UNION

continental historian of America, Captain Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo. The city then had forty thousand inhabitants, ten thousand of whom were archers or men equipped with slings. They belonged to the Chorotega race (Cholotec or Toltec of Mexico), spoke Náhuatl and lived side by side with the wild Mangles or Diriás, whose chief dwelt at Tipitapa.

What does the name Managua mean? For various reasons it is difficult to give the correct interpretation of this indigenous name. One reason is that we are completely ignorant of the hieroglyphics used by the natives to represent this name in their drawings, and we have no spoken nor written tradition of its equivalent in Spanish. However, the most cursory examination shows that the word *Managua* suffered a severe phonetic deformation by the introduction of the sound *g*, unknown in the Náhuatl language spoken by the ancient inhabitants of this city; and it is

probable, moreover, that in its original form it had a final *c*. Thus the word might be reconstructed as *Manáhuac*; and it might even have been simply *Anáhuac*, since the name Managua as we have it today came down to us through Spanish and not Indian phonetics, the one which would have preserved the true pronunciation of this place name. Consequently we have to proceed by more or less logical conjecture to investigate the true meaning of the name *Managua*. Thus in this case the word *Managua* indubitably permits various interpretations when it is separated into components of the Náhuatl language. It might mean *surrounded with ponds*, or *surrounded with fishing* (from *ma*, meaning *pond* or *catch* or *fish*, and from *náhuac*, *surrounded by* or *around*); or it might likewise correspond to the phrase *surrounded by water*, the exact equivalent of the word *Anáhuac* (composed of *all*, *water*, and *náhuac*), which received a special pronunciation because the Indians were accustomed to give to their initial *a*



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

#### PRESIDENTIAL PALACE



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

### MONUMENT TO ROOSEVELT, MANAGUA

Lake Managua is seen in the background.

a stress called a *saltillo*. This might easily have influenced the Spanish conquistadors to pronounce the word *Anáhuac* with an initial M, thus giving birth to the word *Managua* as a Hispanic corruption of the Indian name *Anáhuac*. It is possible that

the Chorotegan inhabitants named the region in memory of the flowery *Anáhuac*, the Valley of Mexico, whence they came. Such a corruption, it may be objected, did not occur in Mexico, but the conquistadors did not observe any exact phonetic rules



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

A BUSINESS STREET IN MANAGUA

PATIO OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa





Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

#### THE RAILROAD COMPANY OFFICE

in deforming the indigenous names of America.

Managua could not escape the catastrophes brought about by the conquest in the surrounding region, but the heroic pages of this period have been lost to national history. Fernández de Oviedo declared that "three years after the date of this letter [about 1527] it was the most utterly abandoned and most devastated town in all the Captaincy General" and that it was almost exterminated. But if it had died, it would not have gone to limbo, the realm of oblivion, because it had already been christened Santiago de Managua (St. James of Managua), a hybrid name, Christian and pagan, mestizo, like its inhabitants, half Indian and half Spanish; and it had been designated a *pueblo*. An assistant pastor cared for the souls of the people and an assistant gov-

ernor for their wealth. It was attached to the *corregimiento* of Nicaragua, today called Rivas, and then to the *alcaldía* of Granada, to which it was subordinated until a law of the republic in 1875 created the Department of Managua.

Bishop Pedro Agustín Morel de Santa Cruz, who visited Managua in 1751, tells us that the city then had nine buildings with tile roofs and 456 that were thatched, each one being separate from the others. It occupied half a square league and had a population of 4,410 persons. The Indians paid an annual tribute to the King of Spain of 1,200 pesos of eight reals each, equivalent to 9,600 córdobas or nearly \$2,000.

Today Managua has 120,000 inhabitants, fine buildings, asphalted streets and other improvements. Every day it grows and improves because it is still in the

process of formation after the earthquake and fire that visited it on March 31, 1931, destroyed thirty-four blocks of houses, and killed three thousand persons.

Managua has to the south opportunity to spread out on a mountain plateau. This cool and healthful region, rich in coffee plantations and crossed by the Pan American Highway from Managua, will, it is expected, be the site at no distant date of a modern and pleasant residential section.

When the first sparks of revolution began to fly in León, Granada, and Rivas in 1810 and 1811, preparatory to the American epic of emancipation, the people of Managua, that true cub of the Spanish lion, proved their love for the glories of Castile as shown in the Conquest by unswerving devotion to the most noble monarchy in the world. Our historians make no reference to any energetic attitude displayed by the prudent people of Managua in the greatest crisis of Spanish rule in our country, in those terrible days

of passionate desire for liberty, of unleashed forces of vigorous and fast-moving strife, those memorable days that were the forerunners of our independence.

Fernando VII of Spain spoke affectionately of Managua when he granted it on March 24, 1819, by royal decree the title of *Loyal City* "so that it may enjoy the preeminence that it can and should enjoy, and so that likewise its residents shall have all the privileges of immunity and prerogatives which the residents of similar cities in these and others of my realms enjoy and should enjoy, and so that this title may be put on all the letters and instruments and in public places, and so that the monarchs who succeed me shall thus call it, and them I charge that they shall support, favor, and guard it and do it all the honors, favors, and privileges that pertain to it." Thus reads in part the royal mandate that I had the privilege of discovering in the Colonial Archives of León, where I also found the coat-of-arms of Managua, which I identi-



Courtesy of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa

A HOTEL IN THE SUBURBS

fied in 1937. As a result, His Excellency General Anastasio Somoza, President of the Republic, issued a decree on July 11, 1944, adopting this coat-of-arms for the purpose of ornamentation and local identification.

We have been celebrating the centennial

festival for the commemoration of the first hundred years that Managua has passed as a city, years that have passed in sorrow and in joy.

Hail, Managua, heart of the country, Managua of the epic past and the bright future!



MONUMENT TO RUBÉN DARÍO (1867-1916)

Nicaragua's most famous son was Rubén Darío, who greatly enriched the treasury of Spanish poetry.



# Juan Antonio Ríos, President of Chile

## *In Memoriam*

PRESIDENT Juan Antonio Ríos of Chile, who will be remembered as a believer in democracy and the leader of his country in its break with the Axis powers, died on the morning of June 27, 1946. He had suffered six months of serious illness, compelling him to ask for official leave of absence, and had delegated his authority to the Minister of the Interior, Alfredo Duhalde Vázquez, who took the title of Vice President of the Republic. President Ríos had been at the head of the government since April 2, 1942, when he commenced his term of six years. At that time he was elected as candidate of the Radical Party to succeed President Pedro Aguirre Cerdo who had died on November 25, 1941. President Ríos was therefore the second successive president of Chile to die in office.

Juan Antonio Ríos Morales was born November 10, 1888, at Cañete in the province of Arauco. When he was six months old his father died, leaving the family with insufficient resources; but as a boy young Juan was able to contribute to the cost of his education by helping with the boarding students at his school, and at a very early age he succeeded in combining with his studies a minor position in the city offices of Concepción. He began his university studies in the Law School of that city, and completed them at the University of Chile in Santiago, where he received his degree in 1914.

At the age of twenty-nine he began his public career as a member of the Con-



cepción City Council. After a short period in the foreign service of his country, he returned to Chile and was elected to Congress, first as deputy, then as senator, and finally as deputy again, for terms totaling fourteen years. He also acted briefly as Minister of the Interior and as Minister of Justice. In 1937 he presided over the convention of the Radical Party which voted to join the Popular Front, and from that time he was a more and more important figure. He held many high offices connected with government banks and agencies fostering mining and other means of development.

In October 1945 President Ríos came to the United States as a guest of the Government. An earlier trip that had been planned for 1942 at the invitation of President Roosevelt had been postponed. While President Ríos was in

Washington a special session of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union was held in his honor. In the course of the address that he made on this occasion he said:

Our national life, like that in all the evolving democracies of America, is dignified and exalted by participation in the continental community of nations. The democratic spirit is fraternal and peaceful. The masses, upon whom fall with greatest weight the anxieties of overcoming material difficulties, understand each other's needs and resources; this comprehension leads to understanding and good will. Furthermore, the essential basis of the inter-American system rests upon the carrying over into the international sphere of democratic national government, that is, upon the recognition of the equality of sovereignty, from which is derived the right of nations to control their own destinies.

This principle of equality and mutual respect, as well as the rule of noninterference in purely internal affairs, has given a solid moral quality to the inter-American system, permitting it to func-

tion, regardless of circumstances, so as to strengthen the solidarity and peaceful fellowship of nations.

At its meeting on July 17, 1946, the Governing Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Governing Board of the Pan American Union has learned with profound regret of the death of His Excellency Juan Antonio Ríos, President of Chile; and

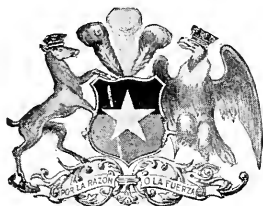
WHEREAS: During his brilliant public career President Ríos showed a constant and keen interest in the development of Pan Americanism, thus contributing to closer relations between the peoples of America;

The Governing Board of the Pan American Union

RESOLVES:

1. To include in the minutes of this meeting an expression of condolence on the occasion of the death of His Excellency Juan Antonio Ríos, President of Chile.

2. To request the Director General to transmit this resolution to the Government of Chile and to the family of the late President Ríos.



# Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright

MANUEL S. CANYES

*Chief, Juridical Division, Pan American Union*

THE Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright met at the Pan American Union from June 1 to June 22, 1946. This was the first time in the Americas that an assembly had come together to draw up a convention on the subject of authors' rights. The preceding conventions, signed at Mexico in 1902, Rio de Janeiro in 1906, and Buenos Aires in 1910, and the revision of the last-named made at Habana in 1928, were formulated by International Conferences of American States which, since they discuss a wide variety of topics concerning the inter-American system, are hardly prepared to take up specialized subjects.

The June meeting was held pursuant to the provisions of Resolution XXXIX of the Eighth International Conference of American States (Lima, 1938). The Pan American Union, in compliance with the duties entrusted to it by this resolution, took a series of steps which culminated in the convocation of the Conference of Experts.

For a long time the American countries had felt the need of considering in a special conference the problems concerning copyright, complex and technical by their very nature. The Conference at Lima oriented the course that would gradually bring about the greatest possible perfection of the inter-American system in this field. Proceeding in accordance with the recommendations of that Conference, the Pan American Union made every effort to

turn a long-standing aspiration into a reality. The passage of eight years between the Lima Conference and the Conference of Experts on Copyright was a result of the war, which interrupted the execution of plans under way and prevented the convocation of the latter. This intervening period, however, permitted much effective work to be done through the study of the principal problems and through the exchange of opinions. During this time the Pan American Union had the invaluable help, support, and cooperation of various interested specialists and organizations.

The governments of the twenty-one countries members of the Pan American Union appointed forty-eight delegates and technical advisers to take part in the deliberations of the conference. All these experts worked hard and enthusiastically in the best Pan American tradition to draw up an effective convention. A spirit of give and take prevailed, and every effort was made to find a formula acceptable to all countries.

The opening session took place on June 1, in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, delegate of Nicaragua and Chairman of the Governing Board of the Union. In the name of this institution, Dr. Sevilla Sacasa welcomed the delegates who had come to take part in a task the purpose of which, he said, was to help in

furthering cultural relations between the nations of America. A welcome on behalf of the Government of the United States was extended by Ellis Briggs, Director of the Office of American Republic Affairs of the Department of State. The response on behalf of the delegates was made by Dr. L. Neftalí Ponce of Ecuador.

The election of officers for the Conference which then took place in accordance with the regulations previously approved by the Governing Board of the Pan American Union resulted in the designation of Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa as president. Dr. Ponce was made vice president.

The following committees were appointed:

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

*Chairman:* His Excellency Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa, Delegate of Nicaragua

*Vice-Chairman:* Dr. L. Neftalí Ponce, Delegate of Ecuador

#### SUBCOMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF PROJECTS<sup>1</sup>

*Chairman:* Dr. Luther H. Evans, Delegate of the United States

*Alternate Chairman and Rapporteur:* Dr. Germán Fernández del Castillo, Delegate of Mexico

*Members:* Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay, and the United States

#### TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

*Chairman:* Dr. Germán Fernández del Castillo, Delegate of Mexico

*Members:* Argentina (Dr. Eduardo F. Mendilaharsu)

Brazil (Dr. H. D. Sérgio Ferreira and Dr. Fernando Saboia de Medeiros)

Colombia (Dr. Arcadio Plazas)

Cuba (Dr. Natalio Chediak)

Ecuador (Dr. Wenzel Goldbaum)

Mexico (Dr. José Diego Espinosa)

United States (Dr. Sam Bass Warner and Mr. William Sanders)

<sup>1</sup> In view of the importance of the work of this Subcommittee, the delegations of other countries also attended the meetings and took an active part in the discussions.

#### COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

*Members:* Honduras (His Excellency Dr. Julián R. Cáceres, Chairman)

Argentina (Dr. Rodolfo García Arias)

Cuba (Dr. Natalio Chediak)

#### DRAFTING COMMITTEE

*Members:* Peru (His Excellency Dr. Juan Bautista de Lavalle, Chairman)

Colombia (Dr. Antonio Rocha)

Honduras (His Excellency Dr. Julián R. Cáceres)

#### COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION OF LANGUAGES

*Members:* Colombia (His Excellency Dr. Antonio Rocha, Chairman)

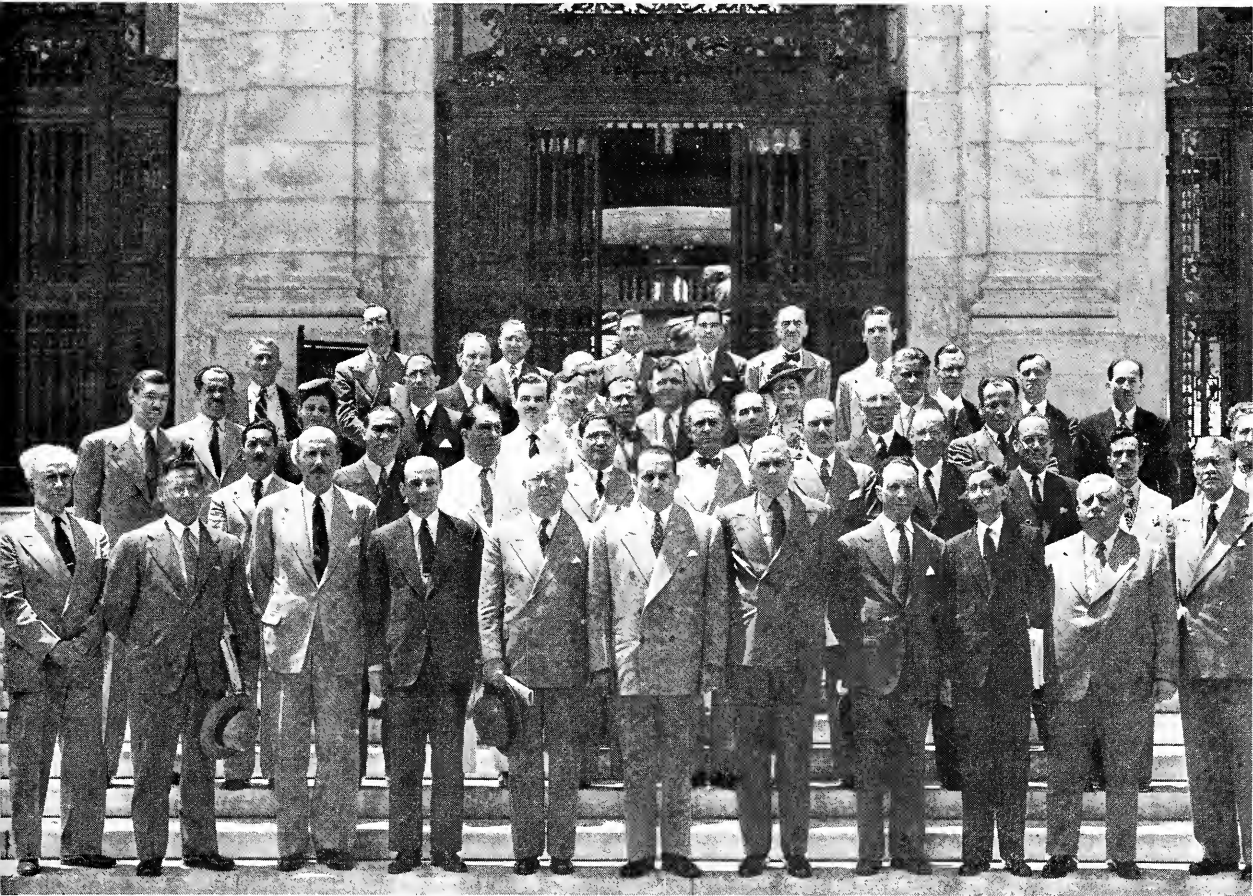
Haiti (His Excellency Dr. Dantès Bellegarde)

Brazil (Dr. H. D. Sérgio Ferreira and Dr. Fernando Saboia de Medeiros)

United States (Mr. William Sanders and Mr. Charles I. Bevans)

In conformity with the above-mentioned Resolution XXXIX of the Eighth International Conference of American States, the Pan American Union had formulated a draft convention which was submitted to the conference as a basis of discussion. This draft had been drawn up gradually over a period of three years after consultations with experts in various countries and discussion at recent extra-official inter-American conferences. It was based chiefly on the Buenos Aires Convention of 1910, the revised draft of an additional protocol to that convention, and on the comments of the American governments concerning this revised draft.

Some of the delegations submitted projects of convention to the Conference and others made observations on the draft drawn up by the Pan American Union. After discussing the best procedure for attacking their work in a practical manner, the delegates decided to take as a basis of discussion the draft convention prepared by the Pan American Union. Following this course, the subcommittee on the Coordination of Projects and the Technical



GROUP OF DELEGATES TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS ON COPYRIGHT

The Conference was held at the Pan American Union, Washington, June 1-22, 1946.

Subcommittee gradually formulated the articles of the new convention.

A general commentary on the especially interesting and important provisions of the new convention<sup>2</sup> follows.

The first point discussed was the terminology to be employed in the convention—that is, whether the classic Spanish expression *propiedad intelectual* (intellectual property) should be used, or *derechos in-*

*telectuales* (intellectual rights), or *derechos de autor* (rights of authors). It was finally decided to use the last of the three on the ground that it is in closest accord with the juridical content of the subject. The term *property* is equivocal and the expression *intellectual rights* also includes the rights of the inventor. The expression *derechos de autor* has several advantages: it is in common use, originated a long time ago, and is in close agreement with the international nomenclature since it is used in many languages. It was con-

<sup>2</sup> Copies of the Convention and of the Final Act of the Conference may be obtained without charge by request to the Pan American Union, Washington, D. C.

sidered that this term would facilitate the reconciliation of the inter-American and Berne copyright systems, if it should be decided eventually to draft a world convention.

It was then necessary to decide what was covered by copyright. This was clearly and unequivocally set forth in Article II. This article was one of those discussed at greatest length, since many fundamental and diverse concepts were involved. However, many differences were more in phraseology than in substance, something that may be said concerning other articles in the convention which were especially difficult to draft.

As for the enumeration of works protected by the convention (Article III), practically no change was made in the draft of the Pan American Union, which in turn was taken almost literally from the Buenos Aires convention. The category of "the arts as applied to any human activity," included in the Habana revision of 1928, was eliminated. In its place the following provision was inserted as paragraph 2 of Article IV: "Works of art made principally for industrial purposes shall be protected reciprocally among the Contracting States which now grant or shall in the future grant protection to such works." And for the first time there were included among the works protected by an inter-American convention "written or recorded versions of lectures, addresses, lessons, sermons, and other works of a similar nature." Another innovation in an inter-American convention was the recognition and protection within the territory of the Contracting States of the rights of authors in unpublished works.

Article V, paragraph I, provides that "All translations, adaptations, compilations, arrangements, abridgments, dramatizations, or other versions of literary, scientific, and artistic works, including

photographic and cinematographic adaptations, shall be protected as original works, without prejudice to the copyright in the original works," and Article VI defines the degree of protection given to works published in newspapers and magazines.

Article VIII fixed the duration of copyright protection. There was much discussion concerning this article, some delegates proposing a fixed and uniform period between twenty and fifty years, and others the period specified by the law of the respective countries. In view of the difficulties encountered in standardizing the period of protection because of the differences in the legislation of the various American republics, the second viewpoint prevailed. The duration of protection is therefore to be governed by the "law of the Contracting State in which the protection was originally obtained, but it shall not exceed the duration fixed by the law of the Contracting State in which the protection is claimed."

Article IX, undoubtedly one of the most important, deals with the old problem of formalities. The article preserves, although in different phraseology, and with greater clarity, the provision established in Article III of the Buenos Aires convention and repeated in the project of the Pan American Union. It stipulates: "When a work created by a national of any Contracting State or by an alien domiciled therein has secured protection in that State, the other Contracting States shall grant protection to the work without requiring registration, deposit, or other formality . . ." This article departs from Article III of the Buenos Aires Convention in not requiring as a requisite for protection the inclusion in the work of "a statement that indicates the reservation of the property right." This condition, required by the laws of very few countries,

had been the subject of criticism and objections, for it often caused the loss of copyright in the international system.

Nevertheless, in view of the benefits to be derived by the use of this reservation in literary, scientific, and artistic works, since it helps to promote their utilization, the Conference approved Article X, in accordance with which the Contracting States agree to encourage the use of the word *Copyright* or its abbreviation *Copr.*, or ©, followed by the data and requirements laid down by the rest of the article. It is made clear, however, that the indication of such a reservation in this or any other form is not a condition of protection of the work under the terms of the convention.

The problem relating to the moral right of authors was settled by the formula incorporated in Article XI. This was another warmly debated point, the solution of which was difficult, for it was necessary to harmonize differing legislation with respect to the inalienability of the moral right. The author's moral right is protected by every American nation, but not in an identical form. Furthermore, in countries like the United States special problems have been created by the extraordinary development of the motion picture and radio industries, which are constantly using adaptations of works. The most difficult point to decide was whether the author may claim this right even after he has given his consent to the modification or alteration of his work.

The inalienability of the moral right as provided in the Habana revision of 1928 turned out to be an insurmountable obstacle to the ratification of that instrument. The new convention protects the moral right of the author, unless "he has consented or consents, before, at the time, or after the modification or use is made, to

dispose of or waive this right in accordance with the provisions of the law of the State where the contract is made." In other words, in this exceptional case, the law of the country in which the contract with the author is made is to prevail.

One of the most important innovations in the convention, included in the Pan American Union project, appears as Article XVI. In accordance with this article, each Contracting State agrees to exchange "at regular intervals, official lists, in card or book form, of copyrighted works, assignments thereof, and licenses for their use, which have been registered or otherwise officially made of record in its appropriate office by nationals or domiciled aliens. Such lists shall not require complementary authentication or certification." The regulations for the interchange of this information are to be drawn up at a special meeting to be called by the Pan American Union. The official signed statements issued by the respective offices on the basis of the lists referred to above shall, "in the Contracting States, have legal force as evidence of the facts contained in the said statements, subject to proof to the contrary."

It should be observed that the provisions of article XVI do not constitute a requisite to protection. Their object is to provide, in each Contracting State, a center where citizens may learn easily and quickly whether the work published in another Contracting State is protected or not. This is of particular interest to those who wish to use works, especially in the motion picture and radio industries. It also has the advantage of making known the works published in other States and consequently of promoting their sales and extending their market.

Another notable change was introduced into Article XIV—that is, the protection of titles of copyrighted works which have

acquired by their international fame a distinctive character. This protection, however, does not extend to the use of such a title on other works that are so different in kind or character as to preclude any possibility of confusion.

Those who study the Convention will observe that there is no provision in it defining what is understood by publication of a work. The project of the Pan American Union contained an article on this point, but when the experts tackled this problem they encountered the difficulty of harmonizing the United States and Latin American legislation. To give only one example, a broadcast of music by radio is not considered in the United States publication for the effects of copyright. In the face of the difficulty of finding a satisfactory formula, it was decided after long discussion to suppress the proposed article.

In addition to the Convention, the contents of which have been outlined above, the conference approved fifteen resolutions. Among them are the following recommendations: the early ratification of the convention in order that its benefits may be enjoyed as soon as possible; the adoption in the legislation of every American republic of the principles of the convention; the standardization of the period during which the copyright is valid; the suppression of formalities for the recognition of the copyright in each country, as far as the special circumstances in each country permit, limiting the purpose of registration to that set forth in the convention and to the protection of third parties who purchase the copyright in good faith; the holding of periodic meetings of registers of copyright,

on the invitation of the Pan American Union, with the object of setting up standards and regulations to facilitate and encourage the interchange of information on copyrights provided for by Article XVI of the convention, the directives to be used in formulating the above-mentioned standards and regulations being suggested for the guidance of the registers; the creation of a temporary committee of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union to study the means of promoting similarity of laws respecting copyright throughout the continent, and the adoption of measures necessary for the development and regulation of nonprofit associations of bona fide authors. It was also recommended that the inter-American organizations which were active in the preparatory work of the conference should bring to public attention the Inter-American Convention on Copyright, and that the Governing Board of the Pan American Union should consider the desirability of the creation and organization of an inter-American copyright office.

Both the Convention and Final Act were signed at the closing session which took place on June 22. Many chiefs of delegations addressed the conference to comment on the outstanding results. All the delegates returned to their respective countries fully satisfied with the work accomplished. It was the consensus that the convention was an instrument technically and juridically well-articulated. It cannot be put into effect, however, until the signatory countries ratify it. Well aware of this fact, the delegates passed a resolution urging early ratification on the American governments.



## Miguelito

E. ABREU GÓMEZ

MIGUELITO era tan pobre, tan pobre, que nunca creyó reunir los diez centavos necesarios para comprar dos canicas de esas que llaman de tiro.<sup>1</sup> Por eso cuando su papá le dió el último centavo, Miguelito no sabía si reír o llorar. Contó y recontó sus centavos. De veras eran diez. Al principio pensó cambiarlos por una moneda de plata. Pero tuvo miedo—¡es tan fácil perder una moneda pequeña!—Después, quiso ver sus centavos limpiécitos. Los juntó y los lavó con ceniza y limón. Parecían de oro. Sonaban que era un gusto. Casi se arrepintió de haber hecho esto. Así tan limpiécitos, tan relucientes, tan amarillos, no parecían legítimos, despertaban sospechas. Quiso volverlos a ennegrecer. Los revolvió entre cisco de carbón. Palidecieron. Pegando unos contra otros, puestos de plano en la punta de sus dedos, creyó oírlos con menos claridad. De todos modos, ya eran suyos los diez centavos. Pretendió alinearlos

en la mesa. Quiso también ponerlos en orden de fecha; de 1900—que era el más antiguo—a 1938, que era el más moderno. En esta tarea estaba entretenido cuando advirtió que la pieza de 1901 la tenía duplicada y que, en cambio, le faltaba la de 1905. Se asustó. Pensó que por esta falla, su dinero no valía. En seguida discurrió lo que podía hacer. Iría a la tienda de la esquina y le diría al dependiente que le cambiara la que sobraba. No era mucha molestia en verdad. Le diría también que no era cosa de prisa, que podía esperar, por ejemplo, uno o dos días.

Al fin, no hizo nada. . . .

Guardó los centavos en la bolsa de su pantalón, y se acostó. A media noche se levantó, cauteloso, a contarlos. Estaban fríos. Contó nueve. Había perdido uno. No era posible. Los volvió a contar: eran diez. Tal vez había contado mal. Le entró una gran desconfianza. Los contó de nuevo; en efecto, eran diez. . . . Los juntó todos y los apretó con la mano; contándolos, volvió a quedarse dormido. De sus dedos resbalaron y cayeron al suelo, casi sin hacer ruido, como si tuvieran miedo de despertar a su dueño. Entre sueños siguió contándolos, once, doce, trece, catorce, quince. Llegó hasta cien. Lo dejamos dormido. Nosotros sabemos que sólo son diez.

*From Siete Cuentos Mexicanos, selección de Manuel Maples Arce, Biblioteca Selecta, Panamá, 1946, p. 39.*

<sup>1</sup> *Marbles for shooters.*



# PAINTINGS OF PERU BY ENRIQUE CAMINO BREN

At the invitation of the Department of State Enrique Camino Bren, Artistic Director of the Central Polytechnic Institute, Lima, is visiting the United States. His pictures are notable for their excellent composition and rich color.

ABOVE: BALSAS ON  
LAKE TITICACA

BELOW: THE INN  
AT MATARA



# In Our Hemisphere—I.

FAR up in the Andes, on the border line between Bolivia and Peru, is *Titicaca*, South America's largest lake. About one third the size of Lake Erie, Titicaca is 139 miles long and, at its broadest point, 69 miles wide. More than 12,500 feet above sea level, it is the highest steam-navigated body of water in the world. Rocky, treeless hills rise from its shores, and snow-capped mountains nearly two miles higher than the lake glimmer in the distance. Picturesque boats or *balsas*, made by the Indians of the region from the reeds or bulrushes that grow on the lake shore, ply through its waters side by side with four steamers, which provide passenger service between Puno, Peru, and Guaqui, Bolivia. The *Yavari* was carried up the Andes in sections in 1861 by mule and Indian. The *Coya*, the *Inca*, and the *Ollanta* (the flagship, which arrived in 1929) were taken up by rail.

Ruins along the shore of the lake bear witness to the pre-Columbian civilizations the rise and fall of which its waters have reflected. Among the most interesting remains are those on the sacred Intikarka, the Island of the Sun, and Coati, the Island of the Moon. According to Inca legend it was on Intikarka that Manco Capac and Mama Oclla, the Children of the Sun and the founders of the Inca Empire, first came to earth. The Inca Empire achieved a civilization in some ways unsurpassed in the Western Hemisphere, and covered a territory stretching from north of Quito, Ecuador, as far south as the Maule River in Chile (a distance of 1,500 miles), and from the Pacific Ocean as far east in places as the lowlands beyond the Andes. At the time of the Spanish Conquest the population of this vast Empire may have

amounted to as many as eight or ten millions.

- Fifteen miles outside of Quito, Ecuador, stands the *Equatorial Line Monument* on which are carved the figures  $0^{\circ}00'00''$  and a line marking the position of the equator. This monument was erected in 1936 to commemorate a survey made two hundred years before by a French scientific mission for the purpose of determining accurately the equatorial line and measuring an arc of the meridian, in order to find the exact dimensions of the earth. A person standing on this monument during the equinox in March and September casts no shadow, because at that time the center of the sun crosses the equator. In spite of the direct rays of the sun, the cli-



SITTING ON THE EQUATOR

A monument to La Condamine's expedition in 1736 stands exactly on the equator.



Copyright by Bourquin and Kohlmann

## PART OF IGUASSU FALLS

In a curve of nearly 9,000 feet the waters of the Iguassu river pour over a series of precipices.

mate at the monument is comfortable in the daytime because it is 8,070 feet above sea level. The monument can be reached in two and a half hours by car from Quito, capital of the country named for the equator. Tourists visiting the monument may stand with one foot in the Northern Hemisphere and the other in the Southern Hemisphere.

- Hidden away among the dense jungles lining the Argentine-Brazilian frontier are the magnificent Falls of *Iguassu*. The Iguassu River, the main source of these Falls, flows westward from the hills of Curitiba in Brazil and absorbs during its 800-mile course the water of many tributaries. Shortly before the Iguassu reaches the Argentine border it opens to a width of some two and a half miles, and is in-

terspersed with a large number of small, wooded islands. Then, twelve miles before its confluence with the Paraná, this great flow of water pours itself, in a countless number of separate cataracts, over a series of precipices, forming a semi-circle 215 feet high and 8,860 feet wide (1,970 feet on the Brazilian side and the remaining 6,890 feet on the Argentine side). This makes the Falls about fifty feet higher than Niagara; the width is more than double. They are in a breathtaking setting of dense subtropical vegetation, and their waters glitter with many colors as they fall over jet-black rock. The back drop includes mammoth bamboos, regal palms, giant ferns, orchids, and begonias.

The Falls can be reached by plane from Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo via Curitiba, or from Buenos Aires via Asunción, Para-

guay. The land journey to the Falls from São Paulo is usually made by railroad west to the Paraná River, then by river boat to the vicinity of the Sete Quedas (Guaira Falls), and finally by railroad and boat to Foz do Iguassu. There is a paved highway from the latter town to the Falls. From Buenos Aires the route is via Posadas and Puerto Aguirre, whence there is a macadam road to the Falls.

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"But thou, Defoe, o'er that lone isle hast thrown  
A spell so potent, who has felt it not?  
Unto my boyhood 'twas a fairy spot;  
Yet to my fancy so familiar made,  
I seem'd as well to know creek, cave, and grot,  
Its open beach, its tangled greenwood shade,  
As if I there had dwelt, and Crusoe's part had  
play'd."—BARTON

- There are many who share the poet's feelings about the "lone isle" of Robinson

Crusoe, but few who know its real name and location. Its name is Más a Tierra, and it is the largest of the *Juan Fernández Islands*, located about 400 miles west of Valparaíso, Chile. It was this mountainous island that witnessed the adventures of Alexander Selkirk, the British sailor whose name has been almost lost in the dusty pages of history, but whose adventures were immortalized by Daniel Defoe. A tablet placed on the island by the British Navy in 1858 outlines the story of the real-life Robinson Crusoe. It reads, "In Memory of Alexander Selkirk, Mariner, a native of Larco, in the county of Fife, Scotland. Who lived on this island in complete solitude for four years and four months. He was landed from the 'Cinque Ports' galley, 96 tons, 16 guns, A. D. 1704, and was taken off in the 'Duke' privateer, 12th Feb. 1709."



"ROBINSON CRUSOE'S ISLAND"

It is generally thought that *Robinson Crusoe* is based on Alexander Selkirk's experiences during four lonely years spent on Más a Tierra of the Juan Fernández Islands off the coast of Chile.

When Selkirk was landed on Más a Tierra at his own request (because he had had a dispute with the commander of the "Cinque Ports"), his supplies consisted of a Bible, a gun, one pound of powder, an ax, a package of tobacco, and a box of clothing. The "complete solitude" mentioned in the tablet is not quite accurate, since eighteen months after landing, Selkirk is said to have encountered a Mosquito Indian (the "man Friday" of Robinson Crusoe), abandoned on the island some years before.

Más a Tierra with its mild climate, rich vegetation, and abundance of wild goats and now famous lobsters must have been a fairly comfortable spot on which to be marooned. Time and tide have erased most of the vestiges of Selkirk's stay on the island, but visitors may still see the caverns in which he lived and cooked his food and "Selkirk's Lookout," from which he watched for rescuing ships.—M. G. R.

(Next month: *Some Latin American Capitals*)



## Postwar Measures in the American Republics—VIII

*Compiled by Dorothy M. Tercero*<sup>1</sup>

### *Economic development*

GOVERNMENT aid to industry, business, and agriculture, in the form of large-scale financial and technical organization, direct subsidies, tax exemptions, fixed farm prices, and various other protective measures, is becoming more and more common throughout Latin America.

In the large-scale long-term class of government aid is *Venezuela's* new development scheme, modeled after similar plans already existing in other countries. On May 29, 1946, the Revolutionary Government Junta issued Decree No. 319 creating the Venezuelan Development Corporation, with headquarters in Caracas, for the purpose of increasing national production through the use of natural resources

hitherto insufficiently utilized, the establishment of new lines of production, the improvement and coordination of present production, and the provision of technical and financial aid to both government and private interests in the study and installation of new enterprises and the improvement of existing ones.

Administration of the Corporation is in charge of a General Council of 20 members, representing Government, industry, and labor, and an Executive Board of five.

The direct every-day administration of the Corporation is in charge of a Manager, who will represent the organization in all contracts, carry out the decisions of the Directorate, and exercise such other duties and functions as may be delegated to him by the regulations.

The Corporation's capital consists of

<sup>1</sup> Assisted in research by Clara Cutler Chapin and Mary G. Reynolds.

60,000,000 bolívares (made available by the Government through Decree No. 320, May 29, 1946, as an additional credit in the expenditure budget of the Ministry of Development); 30,000,000 bolívares, represented by loans made by the National Board for the Development of Production, these being transferred to the Corporation; the items constituting such part of the assets of the Administration of Restored Properties as the Government may transfer to the Corporation; and an annual budget allocation of an amount not less than 2 percent or more than 10 percent of the nation's annual income. (The bolívar equals \$0.2985 U. S. cy.) The capital will be divided into two accounts: a Development and Study Fund and a Work Fund, which will respectively finance research, experiments, subventions, and administration, and the actual realization of projects and exploitation.

The Corporation is authorized by the decree to organize, develop, and administer agricultural, livestock, industrial, and other enterprises and projects of economic or social interest to the nation. To qualify for the Corporation's aid, an enterprise must satisfy the needs and requirements of national production, be economically favorable to the country or to the particular zone where located, and must offer the assurance of a reasonable return on the Corporation's investment.

Under the terms of the decree, the Corporation was immediately to begin the study and formulation of a General Production Development Plan. However, until this can be designed, operations were to begin immediately under the Annual Work Plans. These annual plans will be used during future years to map out and carry into effect by yearly stages the long-time General Development Plan. The decree stresses that the latter is never to be a rigid standard, but subject constantly

to the changes that experience, new studies and research, and general economic conditions may counsel. (*Gaceta Oficial*, May 29, 1946.)

On December 21, 1945, the Republic of Panama, also concerned with the utilization and development of national wealth and resources, created an Economic and Financial Study Commission charged with cooperating with a group of visiting economists and technical experts who went to the country at the invitation of the Government to study the possibilities for economic development. (Decree No. 765, *Gaceta Oficial*, December 31, 1945.)

Several countries have recently authorized subsidies for producers. Cuba, for instance, provided by Decree No. 1242 a compensatory contribution to merchant marine operators during the difficult post-war adjustment period. Cuban shipping concerns are at present forced to operate with antiquated boats and inadequate tonnage, both these factors tending to increase operating costs. Until such time as they can secure new and additional tonnage which will enable them to be real competitors in the marine shipping field, the Government will pay to boats under 2,500 tons gross tonnage a subsidy consisting of a basic contribution of \$0.02 per monthly ton-man, and an added sum of \$0.02 for each monthly ton-man below the maximum of 2,500 registered gross tons. The "ton-man" is the result obtained by multiplying the number of men in the ship's crew by the ship's registered gross tonnage. To qualify for the shipping subsidy the ship owners must pay monthly wages as fixed by the decree and fulfill certain other specified requirements. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 3, 1946, p. 10571.)

The Government of Uruguay, deeply concerned over the desirability of increasing national wheat production, gave approval on April 2, 1946, to a plan for a

National Wheat Production Campaign and made funds available to underwrite the cost. It was recognized by the authorities that the wheat problem has two aspects: first, the necessity of making wheat one of the nation's basic crops to an extent that will meet domestic requirements for wheat as a food; and second, the necessity of assuring producers not only a return of their investments in the crop but also an adequate additional compensation for their labor. A minimum price of 9 pesos was fixed for wheat and, to encourage greater production, a definite campaign for more extensive wheat acreage was initiated. (Decree No. 68/946, *Diario Oficial*, April 22, 1946.)

In *Argentina* a subsidy aimed at inducing wheat growers to move their wheat to market, instead of holding it for higher prices, was offered by Decree No. 10,983, dated April 16, 1946. This decree provided for an additional 5 pesos above the fixed basic minimum price of 15 pesos for each 100 kilograms (220 pounds) of wheat which producers deliver, directly or indirectly, to the Agricultural Production Regulation Board during the month following approval of the decree. The exportation of wheat or flour made from wheat not acquired by the Board was also prohibited. In order that producers who had already delivered their grain to the Board might not suffer by comparison with those who had held their wheat, the Board also was authorized to pay the subsidy to them on the basis of their recorded sales. As a further step toward preventing speculation, millers were forbidden to buy wheat in the open market; their only source of supply was to be the Board which will sell wheat to them at 12 pesos per 100 kilograms. It is estimated that this subsidy will cost the Government about 125,000,000 pesos. (The Argentine peso equals \$0.2681

U. S. cy.) (*Boletín Oficial*, April 30, 1946.)

Another Argentine decree of interest to agriculture was No. 11,066 of April 22, 1946, which fixed basic producer prices for the 1945-46 tobacco crop. (*Boletín Oficial*, April 30, 1946.)

Argentina also adopted general measures for the protection of two of the nation's important natural resources, forests and solid mineral fuels. With imports of liquid fuels becoming normal again following the close of the war, the Government foresaw a decrease in the consumption of the substitute products employed during the days of scarcity, particularly wood. While the Government considered that the higher wartime output of the forest industry should not necessarily be maintained at such a level, certainly the return of forest exploitation to normal levels should be planned to work the least possible hardship on producers. Therefore, Decree No. 11,024 of April 24, 1946, was issued, offering general protection to the industry during the postwar period by providing subsidies of 5 pesos per ton of wood destined for gasogenes, charcoal, and other specific uses as fuel for fixed installations and locomotives. Within a year from the date of the decree, the Minister of Agriculture is to submit to the Government a ten-year plan for forestation and reforestation for the zones affected by timber operations. (*Boletín Oficial*, April 30, 1946.)

Decree No. 11,025 of April 24, 1946, covers protection and development of the coal industry. This industry has undergone appreciable development in recent years, and the principal obstruction to its still further development has been the economic insecurity attendant upon it, due mainly to freight rates that make it difficult for national producers to compete with the imported product. Freight concessions are now made and subsidies are



offered to industrial users of Argentine coal. Coal importers are required to buy an amount of nationally produced fuel equal to at least 10 percent of their imports, and various inducements are offered for higher consumption. (*Boletín Oficial*, April 30, 1946.)

In 1943 *Mexico* established a plan for the intensification of sugar production. This plan authorized the Department of Agriculture to determine the sugar cane supply zone for each sugar mill in the country; obliged the mills to acquire at legally fixed prices all the cane produced by growers in their respective zones; and further authorized the Department of Agriculture to settle administratively any disputes arising between the industry and the cane growers. Nevertheless, in the application of this plan, controversies have occurred which have seriously hindered more extensive cane production, the growers feeling that their interests have not been sufficiently guaranteed. To help this situation, a presidential decree of May 29, 1946, created a four-member National Arbitration Commission charged exclusively with handling controversies between cane growers and the mills. In case of non-conformity with the Commission's decisions, the Commission will refer the matter to the Department of Agriculture for final action. In addition to its arbitration functions, the Commission is charged with trying to prevent conflicts. (*Diario Oficial*, June 26, 1946.)

A tax of one sucre per dollar on the total value of imports was levied in *Ecuador* by Decree No. 716 of May 3, 1946. Revenues received from this tax are to be used to develop agriculture, to counteract inflation, and to strengthen the nation's general banking system, particularly with respect to capital for increasing national production. (*El Comercio*, Quito, May 7, 1946.)

### *Export, import, rent, funds, and other controls*

Articles of prime necessity continue to be a major concern in many American Republics. On May 27, 1946, the Government of *Panama* authorized the Agricultural, Livestock, and Industrial Bank to undertake a study to ascertain stocks of such articles in the country. (Decree No. 413, *Gaceta Oficial*, May 31, 1946.) A Treasury Department circular of *Mexico* (No. 210-6-53, dated May 31, 1946) listed oil seeds, oil-yielding fruits, and oil-cakes as articles of prime necessity and therefore subject to existing regulations applicable to such articles. (*Diario Oficial*, June 8, 1946.) *Cuba* issued new regulations requiring declarations of imports of lard, in order better to regulate that commodity's distribution. Another Cuban measure continued in effect for the year 1946 the prices fixed in May 1944 for cement. (*Gaceta Oficial*, May 22, 1946, p. 9742; June 14, 1946, p. 11,465.) A presidential decree in *Uruguay* dated April 11, 1946, called for sworn declarations of stocks of by-products of oils. (*Diario Oficial*, April 23, 1946.)

*Cuba* has consolidated with regular government departments several of its control agencies set up during the war. In May and June 1946 the Office of Price Regulation and Supply, the Import and Export Agency, and the National Commission for the Purchase and Supply of Edible Fats were all dissolved as independent bodies and their duties and functions transferred to the Department of Commerce. (*Gaceta Oficial*, Edición Extraordinaria, May 22, 1946; May 25, p. 10,059; and June 10, p. 11,103.)

Still other recent Cuban measures, while affecting imports and exports, are also in some degree directed toward the stimulation of industry and agriculture. One decree permits manufacturers and indus-

trialists to send abroad samples of their products without obtaining prior export permits; another, to help poultry raisers, exempts imports of poultry feed from the payment of customs and consular fees. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 10, 1946, p. 11,094; May 29, p. 10,292.) Two resolutions of the Cuban Ministry of Commerce removed restrictions on the sale of unused 35-mm. motion picture film and of black sheet metal containers for such products as lard, crackers, lubricating oils and grease, pharmaceutical and chemical products, and printing ink. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 5, 1946, pp. 10,773, 10,774.)

On December 21, 1945, *Panama*, taking due account of the gradual reestablishment of international trade along more normal lines, issued Decree No. 763, which repealed wartime prohibitions on the re-exportation of merchandise. Panamanian businessmen may now reexport any imported merchandise with exception of the following, which remain in the restricted class: food articles, alcoholic beverages, automobile tires and tubes, medicines, and such products as enter the country under quotas fixed by the exporting nation. The reexportation of merchandise will benefit not only trade but the national treasury as well, since a good share of Panama's revenues is derived from export taxes. (*Gaceta Oficial*, December 31, 1945.)

*Uruguay* has put restrictions, similar to those now prevailing in the United States, on the manufacture of wheat flour. A decree of April 24, 1946, required millers to use 82 percent of the wheat in the manufacture of flour; *i. e.*, from every 100 kilograms of wheat, 82 kilograms of flour must be produced. (The kilogram equals 2.2 pounds.) (*Diario Oficial*, April 30, 1946.)

On April 3, 1946, *Brazil* set up a National Wheat Commission to study and

devise general standards for the importation, transportation, distribution, and sales prices of imported wheat. Bread shortages have recently constituted a grave problem in some sections of Brazil and the new Commission is expected to work out a plan that will assure a normal supply and distribution of that all-important food item. (*Diário Oficial*, April 5, 1946.)

Current high prices and the steadily rising cost of living called forth a new and rigid system of price control in Brazil. Decree-Law No. 9125 of April 4, 1946, which set up a Central Price Commission composed of representatives of trade, industry, agriculture and stock raising, consumers, and several government departments, and the Federal District, presents several interesting features. The Commission's duties, briefly, are to prevent increases in the cost of living and to reduce present high prices. It will fix maximum prices for the sale of articles of prime necessity and for essential services, using as the criterion for selecting these goods and services those that are in common use by the middle classes. To prevent excessive profits, the Commission may also fix prices for articles not included in the prime necessity class. Business establishments must post a list of official prices, and enforcement is effected by a system that requires tradesmen to give customers sales slips stating the name of the firm, its location, and a list of the articles sold and their prices, provided the bill of sale amounts to more than 5 cruzeiros (the cruzeiro equals \$0.0533 U. S. cy.). Illegal prices can then be reported to the authorities, with the sales slip as evidence. So-called "people's price agents" are to be appointed by the President; their duty will be to handle price infraction cases. Heavy penalties are fixed for these, and the hoarding of stocks for speculation is also penalized. (*Diário Oficial*, April 6, 1946.)

To help offset the high cost of living, *Uruguay* is continuing a practice of the years 1943, 1944, and 1945, by granting subsidies to municipal governments of the interior of the country for use in lowering the consumer cost of meat. Decree No. 1040 of March 20, 1946, made available for the year 1946 the sum of 400,000 pesos for that purpose. (The peso equals \$0.5263 U. S. cy.) (*Diário Oficial*, April 8, 1946.)

A number of countries have still further loosened wartime control of tires, tubes, and motor vehicles. *Cuba* in particular recently adopted several measures releasing importers and venders of such goods from various restrictions. Import and stock retention controls on materials for rebuilding, retreading, and vulcanizing tires were removed, and specified sizes of tires and tubes were released for unrestricted sale. Prices, however, must still conform to official ceilings. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 5, 1946, pp. 10,772, 10,775.) Imports of tires and tubes, of "second" quality or used (the latter whether rebuilt or not), were released from prior import permit regulations, and although the seconds can be imported outside the quota, all tires, used or seconds, must be sold at official prices. Wartime regulations regarding the transportation or transfer of new imported or domestic tires and tubes and tire rebuilding and repair materials were also suspended. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 13, 1946, p. 11,370; June 22, p. 12,077.) Importers of 1942 or later models of automobiles, trucks, and truck and omnibus chassis may now dispose of them without prior permit and retail dealers may do likewise, with the proviso that official requests already on file must be given priority and thereafter national, provincial, and municipal governments must receive priority. Biweekly reports on vehicles received and sold must be submitted by im-

porters to the Department of Commerce. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 13, 1946, p. 11,371; June 15, p. 11,558.)

Prior permit for the importation and sale of used or rebuilt tires is no longer necessary in *Panama*, according to Decree No. 836 of March 21, 1946 (*Gaceta Oficial*, March 28, 1946).

In *Chile*, however, the reverse side of the picture is evident. On September 1, 1945, tire rationing was abolished, for the opinion prevailed that national production plus imports would be sufficient to meet requirements. But demands subsequently soared to more than 30,000, within a very short period of time. National production of tires at present only slightly surpasses 4,000 per month. In fact, official estimates contemplate a total production of barely 54,340 tires for 1946. Imports have recently been almost negligible and Chilean authorities regard the tire supply problem as insolvable unless imports can be raised to at least 60,000 tires, to be made available at the rate of 10,000 a month during the next half year. It is problematical whether this can be done, as Brazil and the United States are the only import sources.

As a first step toward improving the situation, tire rationing by strict order of precedence and urgency was reimposed by Decree No. 664 early in April 1946. Requests are reviewed by personnel of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic and purchase permits are authorized by a 14-member commission composed of persons representing different branches of the transportation industry, retailers, and producers. Rationing will probably continue through 1946 and on into 1947. It was made plain by government officials, however, that rationing does not solve the problem; only the importation of additional tires can be of real help. (*El Mercurio*, Santiago, April 13, 1946.)

More ample supplies of motor fuel in *Uruguay* have led to the reinstatement of maximum load regulations for motor vehicles traveling the national highways. In March 1943, as a fuel-saving measure, certain limitations on motor vehicle loads were suspended, but this suspension was lifted by a Ministry of Public Works resolution of April 5, 1946. *Uruguay* also fixed on April 11, 1946, new lower retail prices for gasoline, kerosene, and gas oil used for agricultural purposes, so as to help the country's leading industry. (*Diario Oficial*, April 22 and 24, 1946.)

Public clamor for government action to halt unreasonable increases in rents in *El Salvador* led to emergency rent control legislation, imposed by Legislative Decree No. 14 of March 27, 1946. (*Diario Oficial*, March 29, 1946.) The decree froze all urban property rents—for houses, lodgings, business, schools, offices, shops, and markets—at their December 1945 levels. Rents established since that date, or increases on account of appreciable improvements (the only reason for an increase), are to be fixed on an assessed valuation basis, with 8 percent a year the maximum. Dispossession of tenants may be enforced for three reasons only: non-payment of rent; use of the property for other purposes than those specified in the lease; and the necessity of making repairs to the property to such an extent that occupancy during the repair work is impossible. As for nonpayment of rent, landlords cannot use it as an excuse to dispossess a tenant by refusing to accept or by evading the receipt of rent payments. In such a case a tenant may deposit his rent at the municipal government offices and he will then have fulfilled his legal obligation. Enforcement of the law will be in charge of local officials and the proceeds of the heavy fines fixed for infractions are to accrue to local treasuries.

### *Alien enemies and property*

The administration and disposition of alien property sequestered during the war continue to occupy the attention of many governments. In *Chile* Presidential Decree No. 844 of September 22, 1945, prescribed regulations governing payments for expenses incurred by the State in the control, supervision, administration, and liquidation of enemy property. The decree established that all such expenses would be charged against the seized properties themselves, payable either from funds brought by the sale of the properties or in the case of supervised businesses that continue in operation, from the profits of the enterprise. (*Diario Oficial*, October 6, 1945.)

Restrictions in *Nicaragua* on orders of payment and transfers of funds abroad were lifted with respect to Italy by a presidential decree of January 18, 1946. Permission must first be secured in each case, however, from the Property Control Advisory Commission. (*La Gaceta*, February 14, 1946.)

*Brazil* took steps to release the assets in Brazil of Italian subjects, either natural or juristic persons, domiciled or resident abroad. Under Decree-Law No. 9123 of April 3, 1946 (*Diário Oficial*, April 13, 1946), the properties of such persons will remain under supervision of Brazilian authorities but may be released in all or in part by presidential decree, following the recommendation in each case of the War Reparations Commission. Deposits in the Bank of Brazil to the credit of the Italian Embassy in Brazil, which were sequestered under Decree-Law No. 4166 of March 11, 1942, were also made subject to release in installments, according to the judgment of the Brazilian Government, in view of the reestablishment of normal relations between the two countries, the sum of 20,000,000 cruzeiros having been dese-

questrated at once by the decree-law in question.

An *Argentine* decree (No. 2930, January 28, 1946) continued under control of the Ministry of the Treasury, through the Central Bank, the handling of all public securities belonging to or deposited in the name of natural or juristic persons resident in Germany or Japan or in territories controlled by those two former powers. (*Boletín Oficial*, February 11, 1946.)

Another Argentine decree (No. 11,599, April 25, 1946) established procedures to be followed in the liquidation of properties belonging to the German and Japanese states and to nationals of those countries. The Enemy Property Supervisory Board was placed in charge of the liquidation. The sale of all such properties will be made at public auction or through the submission of public bids, and the properties may be acquired only by national, provincial, and municipal governments or subdivisions; by Argentine nationals, native or naturalized before September 3, 1939, provided such persons were never connected in an advisory, technical, or administrative capacity with the enterprise in question; and by firms or associations in which the majority of shareholders are either native or naturalized Argentines. The proceeds of these sales will be used to reimburse the Government for expenses connected with the liquidation and to pay reparations for war damages suffered by the nation, government officials, and Argentine nationals. There is to be no order of priority before the war indemnities; all claims will be covered on a pro-rata basis. (*Boletín Oficial*, May 4, 1946.)

Restrictive measures adopted by *Cuba* in December 1941 and April 1942, concerning the entrance into the country of nationals of enemy or enemy-controlled nations were revoked in part by Presidential Decree No. 1424 of June 21, 1946

(*Gaceta Oficial*, June 28, 1946). According to the new decree, entrance permits may be granted, after study and sanction by the Cuban Director General of Immigration, to nationals and natives of Italy, Austria, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Siam. It must be proven, however, that the prospective immigrants or visitors support democratic ideals and oppose all Axis doctrines. The same conditions may be applied to natives of Germany and Japan in America who have been naturalized in some American country, and nationals who have resided in an American country during the last ten years. Entrance of other nationals and natives of Germany and Japan will be authorized only after study and after their adherence to democratic ideals and their opposition to Axis tenets are thoroughly proven. Similar procedures will apply to citizens, nationals, or natives of any other country when their entrance is considered desirable according to the policies of the Republic of Cuba. The decree further allows the granting of 60-day courtesy passports or identity cards to persons who go to Cuba for cultural, scientific, or business purposes.

Imprisonment of one to ten years was the penalty fixed for espionage against the Republic of *Panama* or any of the United Nations, according to Legislative Decree No. 11 of November 8, 1945. Sabotage and terrorism are likewise penalized, and subversive activities tending to overthrow the Government or change its democratic form are punishable by twenty years of imprisonment. (*Gaceta Oficial*, February 22, 1946.)

#### *Bilateral and multilateral agreements*

*United States-Cuba Sugar Agreement.* After several months of negotiations between the Governments of Cuba and the United States, as represented by the Commodity Credit Corporation and the Cuban Sugar

Stabilization Institute (hereinafter referred to as Commodity and the Institute, respectively), an agreement was reached on July 16, 1946, for the purchase by the United States of Cuba's 1946 and 1947 sugar crops under terms that will result in higher prices to Cuba on both crops. The United States will purchase the entire crop in both years, less the following amounts: 350,000 long tons in both 1946 and 1947, reserved for Cuban local consumption; 250,000 long tons in 1946 and 300,000 long tons in 1947 reserved for free export from Cuba; and 20,000 long tons for shipment to UNRRA in 1946. Should any part of the sugar reserved for local consumption or free export not be required for such purposes in either or both 1946 and 1947, such sugar will also be included in Commodity's purchases. The sugar sold under the contract is to be made available for shipment, under Commodity's direction, to the United States, the United Kingdom or Canada, and to other destinations agreed upon by Commodity and the Institute. (A long ton as used in the contract means 2,240 Spanish pounds, equivalent to 2,271.6 English pounds.)

For the 1946 crop, the agreement fixes a basic minimum price for raw sugar of 3.675 cents U. S. currency per pound, plus possible amounts calculated according to the prevailing import duty, ceiling prices, and ocean freight rates.

Increases in living costs or in foodstuff prices will also be taken into consideration for increasing the basic minimum price, in the following manner:

For every quarterly increase of 2 percent or more in the average of the monthly food indices published in the "Consumers Price Index and Retail Price of Food," issued monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor, above 140.27 (the average of

such indices for the last quarter of 1945); and for each quarterly increase of 2 percent or more in the average of monthly indices of living costs, as appearing in the Department of Labor publication just mentioned, above 129.37 (the average of such indices for the last quarter of 1945), the basic minimum price of one-fourth of the total quantity of raw sugar purchased from Cuba's 1946 crop will be proportionately increased.

The basic minimum price for the 1947 crop will be the highest price Commodity is required to pay for the 1946 crop, subject to the same proportionate increases based on living costs and foodstuff prices, import duty reductions, and changes in ceiling prices as apply to the 1946 crop. In both years, should the price paid by Commodity for Puerto Rican raw sugar exceed existing purchase contract prices, including any price support or assistance payments made by the United States Government to Puerto Rico, the basic Cuban price will also be increased by an equal amount.

In addition to sugar itself, the purchase contract also covers blackstrap molasses and alcohol.

Cuba was the only one of the major suppliers of sugar to the United States market which had the capacity and ability to respond to United States demands during both World Wars I and II. All other suppliers failed to increase their production or even decreased it during those trying periods. With the close of the war, Cuban producers, in common with all other producers and manufacturers, were faced with tremendous uncertainties as to future production costs and the costs of materials and supplies which they must purchase, largely from United States sources.

*Civil Aviation Documents.* Two more Latin American nations recently took

action on the Interim Agreement on International Civil Aviation, the International Air Services Transit Agreement (Two Freedoms), and the Convention on International Civil Aviation formulated at the International Civil Aviation Conference (1944). On June 4, 1946, the United States Department of State was informed of Argentina's acceptance of the

Interim and Transit Agreements and adherence to the Convention, and on June 25 Mexico's instrument of ratification of the Convention and acceptance of the Transit Agreement were deposited with the Department of State. For action of other American Republics, see BULLETIN, July 1946, p. 408. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, July 14, 1946.)



## Women of the Americas

### Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

#### *Subcommittee on the Status of Women of the United Nations*

THE Subcommittee on the Status of Women created by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations held its first meeting several months ago. Madame Bodil Begtrup of Denmark was elected Chairman, Señorita Minerva Bernardino of the Dominican Republic (Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women) Vice Chairman, and Mademoiselle Angela Jurdak of Lebanon, Rapporteur.

At the close of these meetings the subcommittee presented a report recommending a plan for civil, political, social, economic, and educational equality, as well as the methods for putting into effect the reforms necessary therefor. In this connection it was proposed to create an executive office directed by a woman competent to carry on the work of the sub-

committee. The report further recommended the convocation of a conference of the women of the United Nations to extend the program of work, and requested that the Subcommittee be put on a permanent basis and the number of its members increased. The Economic and Social Council has made the Subcommittee on the Status of Women a Committee.

#### *Chile*

When Señor Alfredo Duhalde, Vice President of Chile who was Acting President during the illness of the late President Ríos, urged the Chilean Senate to discuss the bill giving full political rights to women, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women cabled the Chairman of the Legislative Commission of the Senate urging passage of the bill. A cordial and encouraging reply was received.

*Colombia*

Srta. Elvia M. Ortiz, who has lately been appointed mayor of the municipality of Arbeláez by the Department of Cundinamarca, is the first woman mayor in the history of the country.

Sra. María Currea de Aya, representative of Colombia on the Inter-American Commission of Women, has been elected president of the Colombian Women's Union. The purpose of the Women's Union, organized over two years ago as a result of the special conditions brought about by the war, is to promote the cultural and economic improvement of Colombian women in general and especially of working women, so as to place them in touch with the social changes going on in the world and prepare them to play their part.

*Mexico*

General Manuel Ávila Camacho, President of Mexico, has sent to Congress a bill on foreign service in which there is a special provision stating that men and women are equally eligible for prominent positions. At present full exercise of civil and political rights is required. Mexican women do not yet have the vote.

The women at the Congress of the National Peasants' Federation passed various resolutions relating to their desire for better living conditions and for a larger part in the government of the country. They asked for the vote because they "consider that the progress of humanity and the consolidation of the victory of the democracies rests on the elimination of discrimination because of race and sex." A large number of women signed this petition.

*Panama*

On March 1, 1946, the new constitution of Panama was promulgated. It is remarkable because, among other reasons, it bears the signatures of three women: Srta. Gumercinda Pérez, who was the second vice president of the Constituent Assembly, Sra. Ester Neira de Calvo, an independent national delegate who is the representative of Panama on the Inter-American Commission of Women, and Sra. Raquel W. de Ducreux, an alternate member of the Assembly. The new constitution gives women the right to vote and hold office in any position for which public elections are held. They may also hold administrative positions.





# Pan American Union NOTES

## THE GOVERNING BOARD

### *Rights and duties of American States*

ON July 17, 1946, the Committee on the Organization of the Inter-American System submitted to a Special Governing Board session of the Pan American Union a report and Draft Declaration of the Rights and Duties of American States. Upon approval of the Board it was decided to transmit the Declaration to the respective Governments, for observations and comments. The Governments were requested to send their comments to the Pan American Union on or before October 15, 1946, in order that a definitive draft may be prepared for submission to the Ninth International Conference of American States, to convene at Bogotá.

The document contains twenty-two articles, the first five of which stress the juridical equality of all states, good faith, and a common belief in republican and democratic principles.

The Declaration emphasizes the faithful observance of treaties, bans intervention and territorial acquisition by unfair means, outlaws armed force, and says that if disputes should arise they are to be settled by peaceful means.

On the question of recognition, the Declaration states that "the political existence of a new State is independent of its recognition by other States," but further clarifies this point by stating that: "Recognition, which is unconditional and irrevocable, signifies that the States which recognize the new State accept its personality with all the rights and duties which international law prescribes."

The Declaration contains no article on the principle of recognition of governments. The Committee realized the fact that a principle should be included to make the Declaration complete, but refrained from undertaking its formulation since the Inter-American Juridical Committee of Rio de Janeiro is at present completing a study on this subject.

Economic cooperation is held to be essential to the common welfare of the American nations, belief in the Good Neighbor policy is reaffirmed, and the American republics pledge themselves to unswerving loyalty to the inter-American system and to the strengthening of continental solidarity, as well as to the fulfillment of their obligations as members of the United Nations.

# Pan American News

## *Message of the President of Costa Rica*

GIVING account of his second year as President of Costa Rica, Señor Teodoro Picado rendered his annual report to the Congress on May 1, 1946. Costa Rica's relations with neighbor nations, he said, continued to be shaped around a policy of non-interference in the domestic and international affairs of other governments—a policy which conformed to the principles reaffirmed in the Act of Chapultepec, besides being a common-sense choice for a nation of Costa Rica's small size and lack of military strength. The President reported Costa Rica's adherence in December 1945 to the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and reminded the Congress that there still remained for its study and action the matter of the nation's adherence to Resolutions VII and XLII of the Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace, resolutions dealing with the control of postwar immigration.

At home the administration achieved a new code of laws governing election procedure, laws which President Picado regarded as a successful blend of sound principles with lessons learned from practical local experience; he urged that the Congress reinforce that code by making the changes in certain articles of the national Constitution which were recommended to it by the code's framers. During the year a new district council was created, to have jurisdiction in Los Chiles de Grecia, San Rafael de Guatuso, and Upala, with its

seat in Los Chiles. Two new air lines, TAN and LACSA, were authorized to carry freight and passengers within the country.

National revenues for the year amounted to 60,549,229 colones,<sup>1</sup> not a great advance over the 52,827,108 colones of the preceding year, and almost 14,000,000 colones below expenditures. In November 1945 the floating debt was funded by a consolidated bond issue of 12,000,000 colones. Less than 4½ percent of the year's revenues, 2,662,054 colones, was raised by direct taxation, and barely 2 percent, 1,262,281 colones, by the low national income tax. President Picado did not fail to point out this weakness in the tax structure.

Expenditures for the year amounted to 74,438,760 colones, in addition to 2,523,830 colones spent on the Inter-American Highway. Of the general expenditures some 12 percent went into the service of the public debt, less than 1 percent to the Department of Labor and Social Welfare, and about 16 percent to the Department of Public Education. Only two departments, Labor, which had the lowest allotment, and Development, which had the highest, failed to keep their expenditures within budget figures. The budget, however, was an old one which had been carried over for several years, and President Picado took this opportunity to urge upon the legislators the approval of a new budget specially constructed for 1946 which was waiting for their attention.

In the circulating medium (total of current bank deposits plus cash in hands of the public) the year's increase was very

<sup>1</sup> One colón equals approximately 18 cents.

small indeed; from last year's 155,590,043 colones the total rose only to 156,408,572. Figures on the cost of living were even more encouraging, for small though it was there was a decrease instead of an increase; the year's estimate gave 185 percent using 1936 figures as a base. Last year's mark was 189 percent; at the opening of the war in 1939 the figure was 108 percent.

With the Export-Import Bank of Washington the government succeeded in negotiating a five-year reduction from the schedule of annual payments required by an earlier agreement. Pursuant to this plan, it was setting aside the proceeds of the gasoline tax to keep up a minimum annual service of \$350,000.<sup>2</sup>

Amicable solution of a large number of labor disputes was the year's great achievement for the Department of Labor and Social Welfare. Out of 2119 controversies, which turned on a wide range of issues, 1051 were favorably resolved, 330 were withdrawn, and only 486 were carried to the Labor Courts, a record indicating that the Department, still very young, was enjoying the respect of both labor and management. The one serious strike of the year, which was on the privately owned Northern Railway Company, was quickly settled when the government took control of the railroad. Wage formulation was begun by the establishment of three minimum wage commissions in each province, for agriculture, industry, and commerce; but the President recommended that the law be amended to provide for biennial instead of annual fixing of minimum wages.

About 40 miles were added to the Inter-American Highway, making a total length in Costa Rica of 112 miles of macadamized road and 127 miles in all. Other main roads were built, while

financial help from the national government enabled the cantonal road boards to keep up the construction of local dirt roads needed for collection and distribution of foodstuffs. Twenty new school buildings were built.

On the government-owned Pacific Electric Railroad the net profit was 1,388,133 colones, 527,868 more than in the preceding year.

The National Geographic Institute, which was still scarcely more than a year old, had finished its surveys of two cantons, Tibás and Goicoechea, and had made a physico-political map of the Province of Guanacaste.

The Department of Public Education reported a total school population of 95,642 including about 10,000 enrolled in grades above the primary. Nine supplementary schools were in operation, and 17 secondary schools, only five of which were operated by the government. There was a growing public interest in schools, nevertheless, as was made evident by local requests to the national Department of Education—requests for more schools, as well as for new classes in schools already functioning. A rural school betterment program was being worked out in cooperation with the Inter-American Education Foundation. Its first field was to be in the Province of Heredia, where rural poverty accentuates the rural school's special problems, while at the same time a network of roads and a local teacher training school make it possible to provide inspection.

The Department of Public Health continued its visiting nurse work, and the fluoroscopic and radiographic examinations involved in its campaign against tuberculosis. In cooperation with the Inter-American Public Health Service, the Department undertook various local projects to provide drinking water and

<sup>2</sup> See BULLETIN, August 1946, p. 467.

sewage systems, and was about to begin an experiment in the control of malaria by use of DDT.

Soils, fertilizers, and the never-ending struggle against pests were the year's chief problems for the Department of Agriculture. Large areas were still being laid waste by leaf-cutting ants. So severe was the infestation of locusts, especially in the Province of Guanacaste, that an executive decree of December 1945 fixed penalties for all inhabitants who failed to take part in fighting them.

Scarcity of sugar, both home-grown and imported, was another source of anxiety to the Department of Agriculture. A large government purchase was finally negotiated in Cuba, and a bounty was granted to encourage future production within the country. Honey became more plentiful as the industry expanded. Beekeepers were given practical assistance, the School of Apiculture added to their number, and large quantities of honey were exported to the Canal Zone and to the United States. Production of rice, corn, beans, and potatoes was also greatly increased, and stock farming was stimulated by an unusually large importation of fine breeding cattle and horses.—C. C. C.

### *Reorganization of the Argentine banking system*

During the past few months the Argentine Government has issued a series of decrees providing for basic modifications in the banking system of the country and bringing about much greater government control over all banking activities.

Decree-law No. 8,503, issued on March 25, 1946, nationalized the Central Bank. This action was taken, according to the preamble of the decree and an official statement accompanying it, in order that the monetary policy might be coordinated

with the plans of the Government for the general development of Argentine economy. The Government feels that, in accordance with the provisions of the Argentine constitution, the right to issue currency, to purchase and sell gold, to regulate the volume of credit, and many other functions connected with the monetary policy are fundamental attributes of the State and cannot be adequately exercised by a mixed capital enterprise.

The Central Bank was formed in 1935, and has a capital stock of 20,000,000 pesos (peso equals \$0.268 U. S. cy.), half of which had been owned by domestic and foreign private banks (including a number of United States banks), and the rest by the Government. The private holdings will be redeemed in special Treasury bonds bearing 2½ percent interest, or in cash.

The Bank will have thirteen directors—three presidents of public banks, five representatives of government departments, and five representatives of industry, agriculture, commerce, and labor.

Another decree, issued on April 24, 1946, placed all bank deposits under the control of the Central Bank. Under the terms of this decree the Government undertakes to guarantee deposits of all types by third parties in Argentine public, private, or mixed banks, and banks are required to hold such deposits as agents and for the account of the Central Bank. The Central Bank will pay the interest due to depositors and compensate the individual banks for the expense involved in maintaining the deposits. The rights of depositors to the free use of funds deposited with the banks are not affected by the decree, but the banks, although they may continue to use their own capital and reserves in their discount and investment operations, may not make use of deposits without authorization from the Central Bank.

The powers of the Central Bank were

further expanded by Decree-law No. 12,596 of May 13, 1946 which gave it control of all foreign exchange operations. The Bank has previously been responsible for a large part of the administration of the exchange control system, but certain functions had been under the control of various Government agencies. The Central Bank will now (1) decide what part of the available foreign exchange will be used for imports and how much for other purposes, establishing priorities for the granting of exchange for the importation of essential items that cannot be produced in Argentina; (2) set up lists showing the exchange priority assigned to the various imported articles; (3) fix rates for the purchase and sale of foreign exchange; and (4) establish and administer such regulations, procedures and measures of control as the exchange control system may require.

This decree transferred to the Central Bank the foreign exchange functions and the accumulated exchange holdings of the Corporación para la Promoción del Intercambio, S. A. (Trade Promotion Corporation), and suppressed the Commission controlling foreign bills of exchange.

Additional decrees completing the reorganization of the country's banking system will be discussed in the next issue of the BULLETIN.

### *Supplementary communications agreement between Argentina and Bolivia*

In the Argentine-Bolivian agreement on communications and oil signed on June 2, 1945 (see BULLETIN, December 1945, p. 724), provision was made for the study by a Mixed Railroad Commission of a projected branch railroad linking the Yacuiba-

Santa Cruz line with Sucre. The work of this Commission was climaxed on December 22, 1945, when the two Governments signed a supplementary agreement under which Argentina undertakes to lend Bolivia 60,000,000 Argentine pesos for the construction of this branch line.

The line will run from Boyuibe on the Yacuiba-Santa Cruz line to Tarabuco, from which a railroad to Sucre is already under construction, and will pass through Camiri, Bolivia's most important oil field. Under the terms of the agreement, both Governments are to make every effort to see that the project is completed within six years. As in the case of the 40,000,000-peso loan granted in the June agreement, amortization and annual interest rates on the loan will be 5 and 3 percent, respectively, and may be paid in crude oil, fuel oil, Argentine pesos, U. S. dollars, or any other universal currency. These rates will be paid from the date service is established on the line, if it is completed within six years, and, if not, from December 22, 1952. It will be possible, however, for Bolivia to pay off the debt during the period of construction.

At the same time notes were exchanged between the two Governments concerning the proposed prolongation of the Boyuibe-Tarabuco-Sucre line to Uncía. A commission is to be set up to make preliminary studies on the route and the probable cost of the Sucre-Uncía section.

### *Latin American gold and exchange holdings*

The following compilation of gold and exchange holdings of the twenty Latin American republics was published in the April 27, 1946, issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, United States Department of Commerce. When 1944 and 1945 hold-

ings are compared, it is seen that 15 countries had increases, 2 remained practically constant, and only 3 suffered an appreciable decrease.

### *Reported Gold and Exchange Holdings*

[In thousands of dollars]

Country	Dec. 31, 1941	Dec. 31, 1942	Dec. 31, 1943	Dec. 31, 1944	Latest data	Date of latest data
<i>1945</i>						
Argentina.....	459, 175	624, 287	1, 136, 561	1, 434, 726	1, 607, 663	Sept. 30
Bolivia.....	15, 689	19, 344	19, 001	21, 419	34, 188	Dec. 31
Brazil.....	146, 928	267, 573	538, 317	663, 410	670, 709	Sept. 30
Chile.....	45, 431	59, 570	87, 769	116, 349	130, 392	Oct. 31
Colombia.....	22, 546	61, 850	113, 346	158, 225	176, 780	Dec. 31
Costa Rica.....	2, 746	10, 140	15, 904	14, 232	9, 263	Nov. 30
Cuba.....	67, 887	205, 911	263, 567	462, 550	562, 873	Nov. 30
Dominican Republic.....	5, 705	8, 674	12, 083	11, 488	11, 476	Dec. 31
Ecuador.....	7, 783	17, 152	29, 128	36, 217	34, 322	Nov. 30
El Salvador.....	8, 243	17, 354	25, 337	28, 046	31, 183	Oct. 31
Guatemala.....	13, 174	23, 773	30, 272	31, 067	38, 966	Oct. 31
Haiti.....	4, 824	5, 938	7, 890	8, 954	11, 857	Dec. 31
Honduras.....	1, 296	4, 126	3, 862	9, 607	10, 203	Nov. 30
Mexico.....	53, 000	104, 000	250, 000	300, 000	376, 000	Aug. 31
Nicaragua.....	1, 938	4, 733	7, 453	6, 674	6, 671	Dec. 31
Panama.....	27, 023	28, 758	47, 752	80, 392	60, 096	June 30
Paraguay.....	2, 468	5, 938	8, 644	9, 421	10, 414	( <sup>1</sup> )
Peru.....	27, 425	39, 102	46, 500	46, 909	50, 428	June 30
Uruguay.....	103, 729	95, 730	129, 838	207, 390	252, 037	Nov. 30
Venezuela.....	53, 014	89, 731	115, 244	161, 036	240, 159	Dec. 31
Total.....	1, 070, 024	1, 693, 650	2, 888, 468	3, 808, 112	4, 325, 680	

<sup>1</sup> Jan. 31, 1946.

### *Brazil's foreign trade in 1945*

Brazil's foreign trade during 1945 set new records both in the value of exports and imports and in the favorable balance which amounted to 3,580,000,000 cruzeiros (a cruzeiro equaled approximately \$0.05 U. S. cy.)—more than the total value of exports twelve years ago. Exports for the year were valued at 12,197,510,000 cruzeiros and imports at 8,617,320,000 cruzeiros. Chiefly responsible for the increase in export value were cotton and its by-products, iron, manganese, babassu nuts, and various types of woods, whereas the principal factor in the increased value of imports was manufactured products.

As usual coffee, representing 35 percent of the total value, had no close rival for first place among exports. Coffee exports

were valued at 4,260,000,000 cruzeiros, an increase of 381,000,000 cruzeiros over the 1944 figure. Next on the list were cotton textiles representing 11.5 percent of the total and showing an increase in value of 350,000,000 cruzeiros over 1944. Textiles were the only manufactures among the first ten products. Then came raw cotton (representing 8.6 percent), pine wood (3 percent), rubber (2.8 percent), carnauba wax (2.2 percent), tobacco (2.1 percent), cacao (1.9 percent), rice (1.7 percent), and castor beans (1.6 percent). The lion's share (49 percent) of Brazil's 1945 exports went to the United States, and 12 percent each to Great Britain and Argentina.

Machinery, apparatus, and tools (valued at 1,449,000,000 cruzeiros) were the principal imports, representing together nearly

17 percent of the total. Second on the list of imports was wheat, valued at 1,225,000,000 cruzeiros and constituting 14 percent of the total. Less wheat was imported than in 1944, but the increase in the price per ton raised the value of wheat imported in 1945 to 127,000,000 cruzeiros more than in 1944. Other leading imports were coal, wheat flour, gasoline, cellulose for the manufacture of paper, automobiles, railway cars and accessories, beverages, and Portland cement.

Brazil purchased 55 percent of its imports for the year from the United States and 22 percent from Argentina. The country looked mainly to the United States for manufactured articles, vehicles, and fuel, and chiefly to Argentina for wheat. Imports from Great Britain fell off sharply during the war, but are now beginning to increase, and represented 4 percent of the total in 1945. Other sources of supply were Trinidad, Portugal, and Sweden.

### *New paper mill in Mexico*

A new wood pulp and paper mill is being built in Atenquique, Mexico, by the Compañía Industrial de Atenquique, says a writer in *La Hacienda*. With a daily production of 100 tons of wood pulp upon completion, the mill will be, it is said, the largest in Latin America and the third largest in this hemisphere.

Wood entering the pulp tanks will pass straight through the machinery, leaving the opposite end as finished paper. The process eliminates practically all waste.

Raw material from other sources will not be necessary because of the density of the forests. Hard wood will go to the affiliated company in Jalisco, the Unión Forestal, and soft wood will be used in Atenquique, where large trees will be converted into lumber, and smaller ones

into paper. In the surrounding mountains are large supplies of gypsum and limestone; the latter, practically unlimited, will be used in a projected cement plant.

To facilitate communication, a road to Colima in the west and Ciudad Guzmán in the north will be built, and later extended to Guadalajara. The thousands of workers are now housed in temporary buildings, but a residential section and town with modern buildings, churches, schools, and all conveniences is also being erected. A broad paved road will connect it with the factory area.

### *United States-Cuba freight service*

Ferry and seatrains service between United States ports and Habana, Cuba, suspended during the war, was reestablished in June 1946. The first ferry from Port Everglades, Florida, arrived at Habana on June 6 and the first seatrains from New Orleans on June 10.

Before the war the Seatrain Management Corporation operated a coastwise service once a week between New York and Habana and between Habana and New Orleans, as well as a service one every ten days between Texas City and Habana. During the war this company operated for the War Shipping Administration on quick turn-around trips between Port Everglades and Habana. At present only one vessel is in operation. Postwar service began some time ago but for various reasons was suspended again for about seven months, until the resumption in June.

Two car ferries operated before the war between Port Everglades and Habana by the Florida East Coast Car Ferry Company were purchased in 1942 by the U. S. Navy and, although it has been reported that this company does not contemplate resuming car-ferry operations in the post-

war period, the West India Fruit and Steamship Company has completed arrangements for such activity. The first ferry to make the trip to Habana used to ply the Great Lakes until it was purchased for the Habana service. It has a capacity of 24 freight cars, 25 automobiles, and 40 passengers.

The resumption of these services means much to Cuba, as the country can now more easily receive the appreciable quantities of fats, oils, chemicals, and other products which it needs to meet long-standing scarcities of Cuban manufacturers. Cuba's soap manufacturers have in particular been short of raw materials. The first ferry took a cargo comprised of 4 cars of mules for the army, 8 cars containing 840,000 pounds of lard, 4 cars of fats for soap manufacture, and 5 cars of acids. The first seatrail carried 540,000 pounds of lard, 120,000 pounds of fats for soap, 4 cars of lubricating oil, 10 cars of fertilizer, 15 cars of wood, 2 locomotives, 1 hoisting machine, 2 cars of asbestos materials, and 6 cars of textile machinery.

An LSD (landing ship, dock) acquired from the Navy when partly completed will soon be put into use by the Gulf-Atlantic Transportation Company as a ferry between Key West and Habana. It will accommodate 900 passengers, 230 automobiles, and 20 truck trailers.

### *Mexico buys a railroad*

On June 1, 1946, the Government of Mexico formally took possession of the Mexican Railway (*Ferrocarril Mexicano*) which, following lengthy negotiations, it purchased a short time ago from the British interests that previously owned and administered the system. For this railway, which operates between the port of Veracruz and Mexico City, with spurs to the industrial cities of Pachuca and Puebla,

the Government paid 42,480,000 pesos (the peso equals \$0.2058).

The Mexican Railway, which with all its spurs has a length of 432 miles, is of special interest because it is the oldest rail transportation enterprise in the Republic. It was established through a concession granted by the Santa Anna Government to British interests in 1853. The first section of the railroad, extending from Mexico City to Guadalupe Hidalgo, was open to traffic on July 4, 1857. Construction was also started at the Veracruz end of the line and finally, after various changes in holders of the concession, the two sections of the road were united at Maltrata on December 20, 1872. The opening of the completed road took place on January 1, 1873.

The Mexican Government already owns and administers the National Railways of Mexico, which were expropriated on June 23, 1937, by presidential resolution under authority of the country's general expropriation law. It is expected that the newly purchased Mexican Railway will eventually be incorporated into the existing government railway system.

### *Uruguay and the cost of living*

The Government of Uruguay is justly proud of what it has been doing to help alleviate the increased cost of living. The Minister of the Treasury recently reported that during the year 1945, the Government contributed, directly and indirectly, some 20,000,000 pesos toward lower consumer prices for articles of prime necessity such as wheat, corn, oats, bran, potatoes, and meat. These savings for consumers were effected in two ways: through the waiver, by the Government, of regular levies of various types on the articles in question, and through the appropriation of more than 5,000,000 pesos made avail-



able in Montevideo and the Provinces for direct subsidies to keep down the consumer cost of meat. In addition to these amounts, the Government also contributed during the year 1,551,500 pesos for the support of popular dining rooms in the capital and the provinces, for winter social assistance, and for social security. (The peso equals \$0.5263 U. S. cy.)

### *Low-cost housing for Guatemala City*

Named in honor of Guatemala's 1944 revolution, the Twentieth of October housing development in the nation's capital city was formally opened by the national government on March 15, 1946. On the first of April tenants could begin to move into 156 of the 200 houses which will constitute the colony. The houses are built of a local clay resembling adobe, and are planned to provide necessary living quarters at minimum expense. Each has two bedrooms about 13 feet square, in addition to a kitchen-dining-room, a small yard, and sanitary arrangements. Building costs amounted to 540 quetzales (540 dollars) each, and the houses are to rent at five quetzales a month, with water included.

To be eligible for these houses, prospective tenants must be persons of known integrity and good conduct who have been living in the capital city at least five years, and their families must be free from contagious disease. Tenants must be persons of low income who own no real estate whatever, but on the other hand they must have a trade or a job which will enable them to pay each month's rent in advance during the first five days of the month.

Tenants are expected to keep the houses in good condition, repairing all damage due to their own negligence and reporting

other damage promptly. They may not make alterations, or sublet in whole or in part. The houses are under control of the Minister of Communications and Public Works, who appoints a bonded resident manager to look after them and collect the rents.

### *Panama's new immigration law*

The Republic of Panama has acted to prevent the entrance into the country of undesirables by Presidential Decree No. 779 of May 20, 1946. The new decree on tourism and immigration became effective on June 1, 1946, amending Decree No. 663 of November 20, 1945.

Foreigners are grouped under five classifications: those in transit, tourists, transients, immigrants, and residents. Those in transit stop over only two days or less while on their way to another country. To them cards similar to Tourist Cards but valid for two days only are issued by the transportation companies, which are also responsible for their return. The Tourist Card, issued to those who come to Panama with the sole aim of recreation, observation, or study, is valid for a period of fifteen days and may be renewed for a period up to three months by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. A fine of 20 to 100 balboas<sup>1</sup> and expulsion from the country will be imposed on anyone engaging in commercial, financial, or industrial activity while holding a Tourist Card, and a Panamanian found to be giving such a person lucrative employment will be fined 50 to 500 balboas. Those in transit and tourists are obliged to verify to the transportation companies the purchase of, or the deposit of an amount equivalent to, a ticket to their next destinations. Cards will be issued only to foreigners permitted

<sup>1</sup> The balboa is equal to the dollar.

entry; nationals of the countries with which the Allies were at war, with the exception of Italy, can be granted cards only with the approval of a Panamanian consul. East Indians and Chinese must apply directly to the Minister of Foreign Affairs for permission to enter the country. The transportation company pays one balboa to the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry for each card issued.

Transients are those who come to Panama with the intention of continuing travel to another country or returning to their own within not more than three months. They must obtain a consular visa. Those persons who come to Panama with the intention of settling in the country are immigrants, and must pay an immigration fee of 150 balboas. Foreigners are residents when they have complied with all the laws on immigration and residence, have obtained provisional residence permits, or have established definite residence. The right to remain in Panama may be acquired also by tourists and transients, by the deposit of an immigration fee of 150 balboas plus a surcharge of 50 percent accompanied by necessary personal data. Exempt from payment of the immigration fee are those persons who come for agricultural work, but they may not reside in the Panama-Colón areas unless they are technicians recognized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry. Foreigners resident in the country engaged in agriculture are also exempt from the fee.

### *New phase in Bolivia's struggle against illiteracy*

Armed with a special appropriation of 1,500,000 bolivianos, the Ministry of Education of Bolivia is launching an all-out literacy campaign. Instructions have been

wired to educational authorities throughout the country to prepare statistical reports on illiteracy in their districts, and literacy committees, made up of public school teachers and political authorities, are being organized in each region.

The entire staff of the Ministry of Education will take part in the campaign to be carried on in La Paz, each member being assigned a particular zone of the city in which it will be his duty to teach as many as possible to read and write. It is hoped that this example will be followed by authorities in other parts of the Republic. The cooperation of the Neighborhood Associations of La Paz has been requested in setting up a registry of illiterates in each zone in order to collect the statistical data necessary for the distribution of instructors and the initiation of the campaign.

### *Adult education in Colombia*

On the wide green campus of the new University City in the outskirts of Bogotá, the 45 illiterates among the campus laborers are being taught to read by students of Colombia's National University. Elsewhere housewives are teaching their illiterate maids, and labor unions are looking after those of their members who need help. It is all part of Colombia's nationwide effort against illiteracy.

Dr. Germán Arciniegas, then Minister of Education, opened the campaign on April 4, 1946, by outlining his program in a letter to governors of all departments, intendencias, and commissaries (the political subdivisions of Colombia). With each letter went a supply of teaching primers. Using these primers as their tools, Colombians who can read are to share their privilege with Colombians who cannot, each literate citizen making himself responsible for the teaching of at least one illiterate. Fifteen thousand primers

went to each of the large departments, smaller numbers to less thickly populated regions. Some departments and some banks and business enterprises are printing additional supplies to help the work along.

The primers upon which this vast undertaking is based are planned for large-scale use, and do not call for a teacher's manual or a course in methods. Anyone who can read can use them to teach someone else to read. They are of the picture-word type, building the learner's knowledge through repetitive combinations, the type developed earlier in this century for use among adult illiterates in various parts of Asia and the East Indies, and later adapted to languages of other continents. In Colombia the work is directed by school inspectors under the Ministry of Education, but the bulk of the teaching will be done as a work of patriotism by men and women without teaching experience. Already there have been pledges of active cooperation from church officials, clubs, labor unions, Rotarians, and many other groups.

### *New rural normal school in Honduras*

In cooperation with the Inter-American Educational Foundation, Honduras opened its first rural normal school on March 15, 1946, at Toncontín. The main purpose of the school is to train rural school teachers. They are taught subjects related to the program of rural economy, but not necessarily of an agricultural nature, thus making for broader education of the rural population. The three-year course of study is complete and intensified. The ten-month school year is divided into two semesters of five months each, with a month of vacation between semesters. Students rise at five and retire at nine, and study a total of forty-six hours a week.

The course of study includes language, mathematics, education, social sciences, physical sciences, agriculture, drawing, music, and physical culture. It is planned to admit women in the near future.

On August 17, 1944, the government of Honduras ratified an agreement with the Foundation, similar to the accords signed with other American republics. In the main this contract provides:

1. The Foundation shall send, at the request of the Minister of Public Education, a corps of specialized educators who will lend their services in Honduras to the advancement of a cooperative educational program.
2. Honduran educators are to go to the United States to pursue specialized courses contributing, through lectures and other means, to the exchange of ideas and experiences with educators of the United States.
3. Means shall be provided for studying the needs and resources of the various localities, and preparing to fill these needs by means of normal schools for rural teachers.
4. Equipment and study material for rural teachers are to be adapted, developed, and exchanged.

The rural normal school is one of the fruits of this agreement.

On March 15, 1946 the school had three buildings completed, out of a total of ten planned. They are modern stone buildings, with cement floors, good ventilation, and excellent lighting. The first contains dormitories and clinic; the second has the kitchens, dining rooms, laundries, and rooms for kitchen employees; the third has offices, storerooms, lecture rooms, and professors' quarters.

### *Office of Inter-American Affairs terminated*

Responsibility for the continued performance of the extensive health and sanitation, agricultural and educational cooperative programs conducted in the

other American republics by the Office of Inter-American Affairs was intrusted directly to the Secretary of State under an Executive order signed April 21, 1946, by President Truman. These beneficial programs were not carried out by the Office of Inter-American Affairs itself but through Government corporations which it controlled. The cooperative health and sanitation and agricultural programs were conducted through the medium of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs and the cooperative educational programs through the Inter-American Educational Foundation. Control over these corporations, and consequently the task of assuring the successful accomplishment of their programs, is now vested by the Executive order in the Secretary of State. The transfer has in no way affected the continuous and smooth functioning of the corporations, which now operate directly under the auspices of the Secretary of State.

The presidential order brought to a close any direct operations of the Office of Inter-American Affairs.

Also included in the transfer were three other corporations, the Inter-American Transportation Corporation, the Inter-American Navigation Corporation, and Prencinradio. Since June 30, 1946, these corporations have been devoted only to winding up their affairs.

In assuming this responsibility, delegated by the President, it is the purpose of the Department of State to insure the successful performance, under conditions of peacetime economy and efficiency, of the highly important cooperative programs of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs and the Inter-American Educational Foundation, for which commitments have been given to the other American republics. Funds for the accomplishment of these programs are derived from congressional

appropriations under the contract authority granted by Congress in 1944 and by means of contributions received from the governments of the other American republics in whose countries cooperative programs are being carried out. Consequently, no interruption or alteration in the vigorous and sustained prosecution of these programs is envisioned.

### *Guggenheim fellowship awards*

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation announced on July 1, 1946, the award of twenty Latin American fellowships with stipends totalling \$50,000, and the extension of its fellowships to five more South American countries. Hitherto, the Foundation's Latin American fellowships have been awarded to citizens and permanent residents of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay, as well as to Puerto Ricans. The countries now added to this fellowship program are Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Venezuela. Beginning in 1947 the Foundation's appropriations for all the fellowships will approximate \$100,000 annually. Dr. Charles Wagley, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Columbia University, has been engaged to direct the expanded Latin American Fellowship program.

The twenty fellowships awarded to Latin Americans this year are distributed as follows: six to Brazilians, four to Mexicans, four to Argentines, three to Chileans, two to Cubans, and one to a Uruguayan. The fields of study include music, architecture and sculpture, science, history, literature, and philosophy. The recipients are:

HÉCTOR A. TOSAR ERRECART, composer, Montevideo.

CLAUDIO SANTORO, composer, Buenos Aires.

ALBERTO EVARISTO GINASTERA, composer, Buenos Aires.

JOÃO BATISTA VILANOVA ARTIGAS, architect, São Paulo.

JOSÉ ALONSO, sculptor, Buenos Aires.

R. FERNANDO ALEGRÍA, writer, Santiago, Chile.

PARIS PISHMISH RECILLAS, Investigator, National Astrophysical Observatory, Puebla, Mexico.

MOISÉS KRAMER, biologist, São Paulo.

JOÃO MOOJEN DE OLIVEIRA, naturalist, Rio de Janeiro.

LUIS RENÉ RIVAS Y DÍAZ, zoologist, Habana.

BERNARDO VILLA RAMÍREZ, biologist, Mexico.

EDUARDO D. P. DE ROBERTIS, chief, Section of Cytology and Histophysiology, Institute of General Anatomy and Embryology, University of Buenos Aires.

RENÉ HONORATO CIENFUEGOS, biochemist, Santiago, Chile.

OTTO GUILHERME BIER, chemist, São Paulo.

HORACIO JOSÉ AMBROSIO RIMOLDI, psychologist, Mendoza, Argentina.

ELYSIARIO TAVORA FILHO, mineralogist, Rio de Janeiro.

JULIO J. L. LE RIVEREND BRUSONE, historian, Cuba.

PEDRO ARMILLAS, archaeologist, Mexico.

CARLOS BOSCH-GARCÍA, research scholar, Mexico.

JOSÉ MARÍA FERRATER MORA, philosophy professor, Santiago, Chile.

### *Health agreement between Peru and Chile*

Peru and Chile are making plans for an intensive health program to be carried on in the frontier area between the two countries. An agreement signed by the Ministers of Public Health and Social Assistance of these neighbor republics at a meeting held in Lima in April 1946 provides for the launching of a cooperative anti-malaria campaign in this area, the establishment of permanent contact and mutual assistance between the health authorities of the border towns, and the setting up of stationary and mobile health control stations to guard against contraband and other possible means of transmitting contagious diseases. Peruvian and Chilean health authorities were to meet later in the month at Arica

to exchange practical demonstrations of malaria-control methods and to arrange the technical details of the program.

### *A village hospital in Panama*

Because of the kindness of a United States Army officer, Captain Coles W. Raymond of Litchfield, Connecticut, the little Panamanian village of Chame will soon have a community hospital. When completed, the hospital will accommodate 32 adult patients and 16 children, provide maternity service, have an out-patient clinic, and provide quarters for one doctor and several nurses.

In July 1943, Captain Raymond, formerly an interne in Bellevue Hospital in New York City, was assigned as flight surgeon at Chame, one of the air bases set up to protect the Panama Canal. The residents of Chame and other districts began to bring their sick and wounded to him for medical attention—abdominal ailments, knife slashes, pneumonia cases, all received treatment when his Army duty was not pressing.

The community hospital plan was evolved when the people of Chame realized that quick, dependable medical attention would not be available at the end of the war after the removal of the air base. Some months ago, with the assistance of the Army, which provided transportation for materials, and with the combined efforts of the villagers of Chame and the residents of neighboring towns, the foundations and walls of the hospital were raised, 9,000 tiles of the 50,000 needed were collected, and a garden sufficient for the hospital kitchen was planted. The people of Chame are confident that the whole building will be completed before many more months have passed.

Several months later, Captain Raymond

returned to the United States, but the people of Chame will not forget him. At a ceremony in his honor just before his departure, a little girl of the village sang him a song, in reply to which he sang a Yale football song, the only one he could remember. Another little girl, whom he had treated, sent a handkerchief bordered with lace to his wife, with the note: "For Dr. Raymond's wife, made by the hand that he cured."

### *Conferences and expositions in the Americas*

The BULLETIN presents below a list of conferences and expositions held in the various American republics between July 1945 and July 1946. This supplements and continues the list of conferences held during 1944-1945 published in the October 1945 issue of the Bulletin.

#### ARGENTINA

- Buenos Aires, July 26, 1945. First National Conference of Directors of Argentine Universities.
- Buenos Aires, August 27, 1945. First Congress of Forest Products.
- Buenos Aires, September 3, 1945. National Assembly of Women.
- Buenos Aires, September 6, 1945. Rivadavian Congress.
- Buenos Aires, September 11, 1945. American Congress of Student Journalists.
- Buenos Aires, September 16, 1945. Annual Congress of Electrical Cooperatives.
- Buenos Aires, September 17, 1945. Congress on Mathematics, Physics, and Astronomy.
- Buenos Aires, September 20, 1945. First Conference on Sanatoriums and Clinics.
- Buenos Aires, September 30, 1945. First National Public Health Congress.
- Rosario, October 26, 1945. Third Congress of the Health Department of Santa Fe Province.
- Buenos Aires, December 7, 1945. Conference of Workers' Organizations.

#### BOLIVIA

- La Paz, July 16, 1945. Third National Congress on Railroads, Streetcars, and Related Subjects.

- Copacabana, August 11, 1945. Peruvian-Bolivian Rotarian Congress.
- Cochabamba, August 13, 1945. Third National Agricultural Congress.
- La Paz, October 15, 1945. First Congress of Chambers of Commerce.
- La Paz, October 25, 1945. First National Assembly of Student Journalists.
- La Paz, November 6, 1945. First Assembly of Superintendents School Districts.
- La Paz, December 15, 1945. Third National Congress of Workers.
- Catave, March 16, 1946. Third Miners Congress.

#### BRAZIL

- Rio de Janeiro, June 23, 1945. Ninth Brazilian Education Congress.
- Rio de Janeiro, October 15, 1945. First Brazilian Congress on Administration.
- Rio de Janeiro, January 26, 1946. Eleventh Brazilian Congress on Engineering and Industry.
- São Paulo, April 3, 1946. First Brazilian Congress on Bromatology.

#### CHILE

- Santiago, October 20, 1945. Fourth Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association.
- Santiago, December 4, 1945. Seventh Chilean Congress on Surgery.
- Santiago, January 3, 1946. National Convention of the Chilean Teachers Union.
- Santiago, January 16, 1946. General Council of the South American Petroleum Institute.

#### COLOMBIA

- Bogotá, July 20, 1945. National Congress of Educators.
- Bogotá, October 12, 1945. Colombian Forestry Convention.
- Medellín, November 11, 1945. National Communications Congress.
- Bogotá, December 6, 1945. Sixth National Workers' Congress.
- Cartagena, February 25, 1946. Third National Conference of Chairmen of Chambers of Commerce.

#### CUBA

- Habana, June 24, 1945. First National Congress of Sugar Chemists.
- Habana, June 28, 1945. Fourth National Congress of the National Maritime Workers' Federation.

Habana, June 30, 1945. National Congress of Governors and Mayors.  
 Habana, August 28, 1945. National Congress of Doctors of Education.  
 Habana, August 29, 1945. Third National Congress of Industrial Technicians.  
 Habana, September 1, 1945. First International Conference of Lawyers.  
 Habana, September 13, 1945. First National Railroad Congress.  
 Habana, April 4, 1946. Twenty-third Meeting of the Cuban Society of International Law.

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

La Vega, October 24, 1945. First Congress of Normal School Students.  
 Santiago, March 31, 1946. Fourth Dominican Medical Congress.

## ECUADOR

Quito, October 23, 1945. Agricultural Congress.  
 Quito, February 4, 1946. First Assembly of Radio Broadcasters.  
 Quito, February 8, 1946. Second Congress of Ecuadorean Indians.  
 Cuenca, February 23, 1946. Second National Economic Conference.

## EL SALVADOR

San Salvador, August 21 and 28, 1945. Fourth and Fifth Central American Unionist Conventions.

## GUATEMALA

Escuintla, May 27, 1945. First Regional Economic Congress of the Pacific Zone.

## MEXICO

Mexico City, July 5, 1945. National Revolutionary Congress on Agrarian Law.  
 Guadalajara, August 23, 1945. First National Shoemakers' Convention.  
 Toluca, September 6, 1945. Third Regional Assembly of the Mexican Mathematical Society.  
 Mexico City, September 12, 1945. Twenty-eighth General Assembly of the Federation of National Chambers of Commerce.  
 Guanajuato, September 16, 1945. Seventh History Congress.  
 Guadalajara, October 1, 1945. Second National Police Congress.  
 Mexico City, October 8, 1945. Mexican Congress on Social Science.

Monterrey, November 30, 1945. Second National Congress on Normal School Education.  
 Mexico City, January 21, 1946. Third National Congress of Industries.  
 Mexico City, March 21, 1946. National Convention of the Mexican Bankers' Association.  
 Mexico City, April 8, 1946. First Mexican-Guatemalan Medical Congress.

## PANAMA

Panama City, September 14, 1945. Congress of Panamanian Students.  
 Panama City, January 9, 1946. First Panamanian Catechetical Congress.

## PERU

Lima, August 1, 1945. First National Congress of Young Women of Peruvian Catholic Action.  
 Trujillo, January 14, 1946. Second Northern Regional Teachers' Congress.  
 Lima, February 18, 1946. Second Conference on Cooperatives.

## URUGUAY

Montevideo, March 21, 1945. First National Conference on Social Aid to Youth.  
 Montevideo, May 17, 1945. Second Congress of Directors of Departmental and Auxiliary Public Health Centers.  
 Montevideo, May 29, 1946. First National Accountants' Congress.

## VENEZUELA

Caracas, August 15, 1945. Second National Convention of Farmers.  
 Barcelona, August 19, 1945. Tenth National Teachers' Convention.  
 Caracas, August 23, 1945. First National Congress of Garment Workers.

## INTERNATIONAL

Lima, March 24, 1945. Fifth Assembly of the International College of Surgeons.  
 Habana, May 27, 1945. International Conference on Aviation.  
 Bogotá, June 1, 1945. First Inter-American Congress of Catholic Educators.  
 Austin, Texas, June 16, 1945. Inter-American Conference of Intellectual Cooperation.  
 Rio de Janeiro, September 3, 1945. Third Inter-American Radio Conference.  
 Santiago, Chile, September 9, 1945. First Pan American Congress of Social Service.

Mexico City, October 7, 1945. First Inter-American Meeting on Typhus.  
 San Salvador, November 10, 1945. Central American-Mexican Coffee Congress.  
 Montevideo, November 26, 1945. Second Pan American Ophthalmological Congress.  
 Panama City, January 9, 1946. First World Congress of Junior Chambers of Commerce.  
 Santiago, Chile, January 16, 1946. Permanent International Congress of the South American Petroleum Institute.  
 Guatemala City, February 18, 1946. First Central American Conference on Nutrition.  
 Lima, March 24, 1946. Fifth International Assembly of the College of Surgeons.  
 Mexico City, April 1, 1946. Third Conference of the American States Members of the I. L. O.  
 Montevideo, April 5, 1946. Fifth Pan American Railway Congress.  
 Panama City, April 9, 1946. Fourth Convention of Lions International of Central America and Panama.  
 Panama City, April 22, 1946. First Central American Conference on Venereal Disease.  
 Panama City, April 27, 1946. Fourteenth Convention of Rotary International, Central America and Panama.  
 Mexico City, May 8, 1946. Fifth American Congress of Teachers.  
 Washington, D. C., June 1, 1946. Inter-American Conference of Experts on Copyright.

#### EXPOSITIONS

Santiago, Chile, May 18, 1945. Book, Pottery and Art Exposition.  
 San Salvador, El Salvador, June 21, 1945. Exposition of Books, Magazines and Newspapers.  
 Buenos Aires, July 21, 1945. Twenty-sixth Exposition of Poultry and Rabbits.  
 Rosario, Argentina, August 4, 1945. Forty-fifth National Livestock, Industrial and Commercial Exposition.  
 Santa Fe, Argentina, September 3, 1945. Thirty-ninth Livestock and Industrial Exposition and dairy cow contest.  
 Buenos Aires, September 21, 1945. Thirty-fifth Annual Exposition of Fine Arts.  
 Buenos Aires, October 6, 1945. Argentine Dairy Industry Exposition.  
 Uruguayana, Brazil, October 12, 1945. International Livestock Exposition.  
 Buenos Aires, November 27, 1945. Agricultural Education Exposition and Fair.  
 Seguencoma, Bolivia, December 8, 1945. First Livestock Exposition.

Buenos Aires, December 11, 1945. First Argentine Telecommunications Exhibition.  
 Lima, January 12, 1946. Agricultural and Industrial Exposition.  
 Caracas, March 10, 1946. Seventh Annual Venezuelan Art Salon.  
 David, Panama, March 16, 1946. National Fair.  
 Mexico City, June 4, 1946. Fourth Mexican Book Fair.

#### *We see by the papers that—*

- July 7 saw the opening of railway service by through cars from *New York, Washington*, and other cities via St. Louis to *Mexico City*.
- On June 3, 1946, there was signed by James F. Byrnes, Secretary of State, and A. Machado-Hernández, Venezuelan Ambassador in Washington, an agreement providing for the sending of a *United States* military mission to *Venezuela*. The agreement, which will continue in force for two years and may be extended beyond that period at the request of the Venezuelan Government, contains provisions similar to those contained in agreements between the United States and certain other American republics, providing for the detail of United States Army or Navy officers to advise the armed forces of those countries.
- Although Brazilian rubber gatherers have always mixed the latex of certain species of *Sapium* with the latex of *Hevea* in the preparation of rubber, tests made by the Bureau of Standards in Washington, D. C., show that certain species of *Sapium* native to the Amazon Basin yield a rubber superior in strength and elasticity to *Hevea* rubber, says an article in *Tropical Woods*. The *Sapium* rubber tree is abundantly distributed throughout the Amazon Valley, especially on Caviana Island in the Amazon Estuary. In the State of Pará it is called *murupita* or *curupita*, while in the State of Amazonas and



Peru it is known as *tapuru* or *seringarana*. In eastern Colombia and Ecuador a species of *Sapium* produces *caucho blanco*. The Instituto Agronomico do Norte at Belém, Pará, is studying the economic possibilities of this rubber-producing plant, including plantation potentialities.

- According to *The Mineral Survey of Mexico*, considerable quantities of Mexican silver are being flown to the Orient, mostly China and India, once or twice a month by a special tri-motor plane from San Francisco, California.

India in particular is taking a large amount of the Mexican silver thus shipped because of the increasing demand for the metal in that country. According to Bombay press reports, some of this silver is being used to bolster the reserves of various Indian banks.

- In *Mexico City* a caravan of Willys jeeps from the Willys Export Corporation, of Toledo, Ohio, gave a series of demonstrations of the vehicles' agricultural, industrial, and fire-fighting qualities. Sponsored jointly by the Willys Export Corporation and Willys Mexicana, the demonstrations, which were held on the Mexican government experimental farm, showed the use of the jeeps as power sources for arc-welding, paint-spraying, pneumatic-drilling and fire-fighting, as well as for agricultural purposes.

- The first plane of the *Venezuelan Air Line* to land at La Guardia Field, New York, arrived July 9, 1946.

- Direct non-stop air service between, *Mexico City* and *Los Angeles*, California, was started June 10, 1946, by the Compañía Mexicana de Aviación. Using 54-passenger 4-motor superclippers, the planes cover the air distance of approximately 1,625 miles between the two cities in about seven hours, a saving of

flying time of five hours over former schedules.

- The Aviation Safety Award of the Inter-American Safety Council was presented to TACA Airways on April 26, 1946, in Panama. This marks the third consecutive year that TACA has received this award, given by the Council to an aviation company which has operated during the year without an accident or fatality to passengers or crew. TACA Airways is composed of individual TACA companies in Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela. The company started in Central America.

- Brazilian timbers have been put to several new uses, according to a report in *Tropical Woods*. Most of the small planes used by the civil aviation clubs in *Brazil* are equipped with laminated propellers made of *pau marfim* (Brazilian ivorywood) or of *feijjo*. The propellers of *par marfim* are said to be superior to imported propellers of walnut or mahogany. In São Paulo *pau marfim* has been successfully tested for shuttles in silk looms, and these shuttles are reported to have given as satisfactory service as those made of American persimmon. During the past few years, Brazilian arsenals have been using *açoita cavalo do miuda* for gunstocks for army rifles. The wood of this tree is light brown, marked with longitudinal streaks of a darker color. In texture and general appearance it is not unlike red gum, although it is much heavier.

- *Paraguay's* national merchant marine, established in 1945 (see BULLETIN, February 1946, p. 104), is reaching toward its goal of developing the nation's river transportation system to a really efficient and useful stage. Orders have been placed in the United States for a 1,000-

ton cargo motor vessel, 4 barges of 400 tons each, and a 600 h. p. tug, to cost a total of approximately \$732,000. The merchant marine is already operating small river craft under a government subsidy and eventually expects to acquire six cargo vessels of about the same tonnage as the one on order.

- The budget for the Republic of *Panama* for the six-month fiscal period between July 1 and December 31, 1946, will amount to \$15,971,000, exclusive of \$3,000,000 for the National Airport and \$1,000,000 for the Colón fill project, which will be financed by bond issues. Usually, budgets in Panama are prepared for two-year periods. The last budget expired June 30. Rather than have future budgets expire in mid-year, the Jiménez administration prepared a six-month estimate and will resume two-year budgets on January 1, 1947.

- Small borrowers in the *Dominican Republic* were given government protection through the approval of a recent law (No. 1135, March 14, 1946), regulating loans totaling not more than 300 pesos. (The Dominican peso equals the U. S. dollar.) Monthly interest on such loans is limited to a maximum of 4 percent, and lenders, whether individuals or companies, must secure licenses to engage in the money-lending business. Complete records of all loan negotiations must be kept and are subject to inspection by authorized government officials. Stiff penalties for infractions are fixed by the law.

- In February 1946 the Government of *Cuba* authorized a credit of 200,000 pesos (1 peso equals \$1.00 U. S. cy.) to put under way a plan for the construction of low-cost dwellings to help relieve the housing shortage. Once the work was started, it became evident that it should

be carried forward with greater speed and scope. Therefore, in June 1946, another presidential decree made available, for an indefinite period, a monthly sum of \$100,000 for continuation of the low-cost housing construction program.

- The *Dominican Republic* recently declared May 12 as annual "Hospital Day." Appropriate celebrations will commemorate the birthday of Florence Nightingale and the founding, on Dominican soil, of the first hospital in America, named for San Nicolás de Bari.

- On May 12, 1946, a monument to the *Mexican* hero of independence, José Maria Morelos y Pavón, was unveiled in Cuernavaca, capital of the State that bears the great patriot's name. The work of the sculptor Juan F. Olaguibel, a native of Guanajuato, Mexico, the stone statue stands approximately 37.5 feet high. It is located in a small park immediately behind the Palace of Cortés, a historic old building familiar to all visitors.

- A National Art Theater School has just been organized in the *Dominican Republic*. Established by presidential decree, the new school will function under the National Conservatory of Music and Speech but will develop its activities independently. It has a governing board, a stage director, and an advisory committee, the latter being charged with the study and selection of works for presentation. The theater's initial company consists of eight actors and eight actresses, besides various production experts.

- The *araguaney* (*Tecoma chrysantha*), is the national tree of Venezuela, according to *El Agricultor Venezolano*. It is known in English as Ginger Thomas, trumpet-flower, yellow elder and yellow cedar. The bright yellow flowers are borne in racemes or panicles at the end of the branches.

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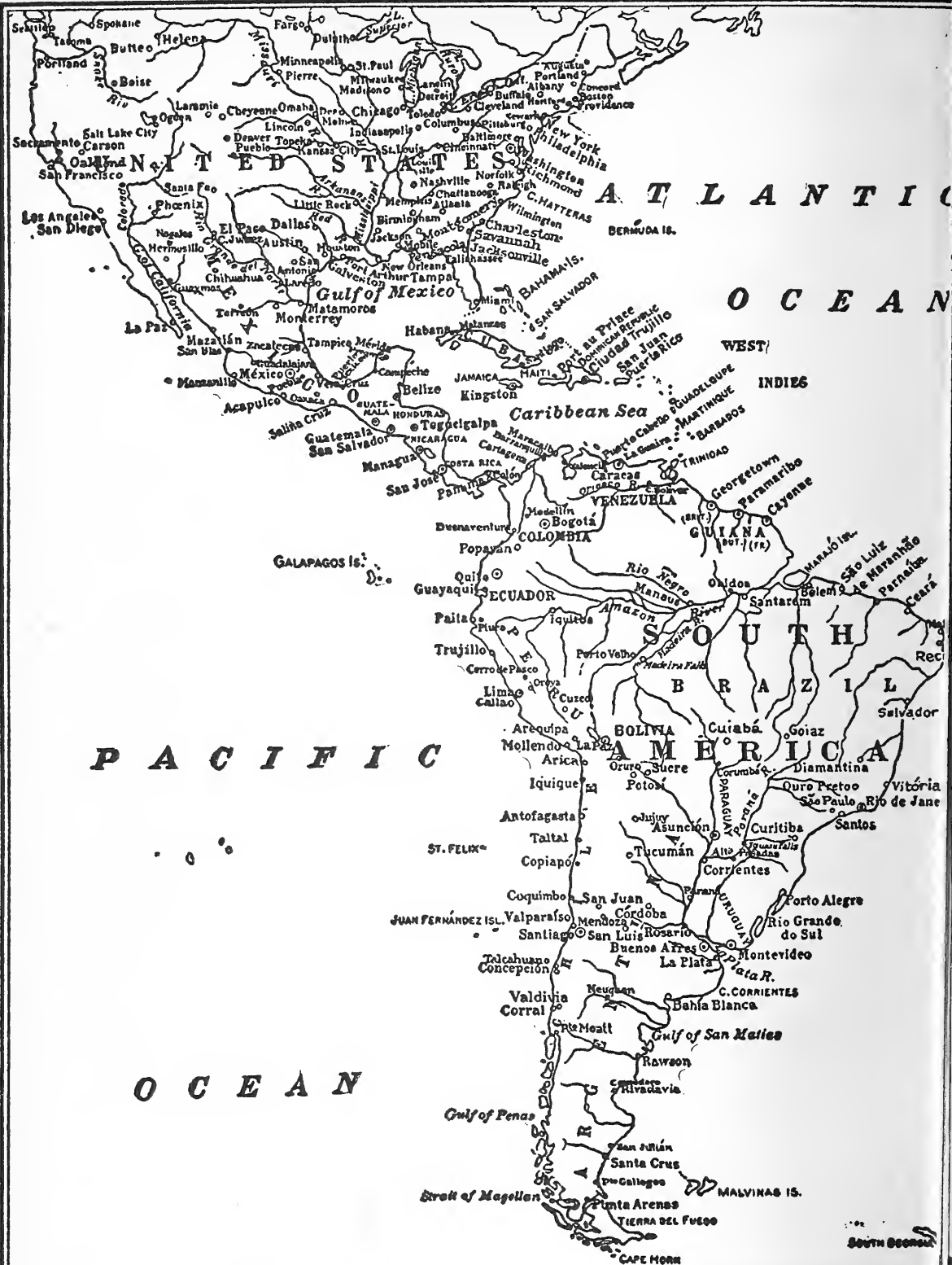
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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.





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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: WROUGHT IRON AND BRONZE GATE, NATIONAL PALACE, GUATEMALA CITY (Courtesy of the National Tourist Commission)



Courtesy of the Inter-American Educational Foundation

### LEARNING TO USE AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

Since 1938, the United States has had an active program of cooperation with the Latin-American Republics. It is coordinated in Washington by the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 10



OCTOBER 1946

## United States Program of Scientific and Cultural Cooperation with Other American Republics

EDGAR B. BROSSARD

*Member, United States Tariff Commission and the Commission's Representative on the Executive Committee of The Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation*

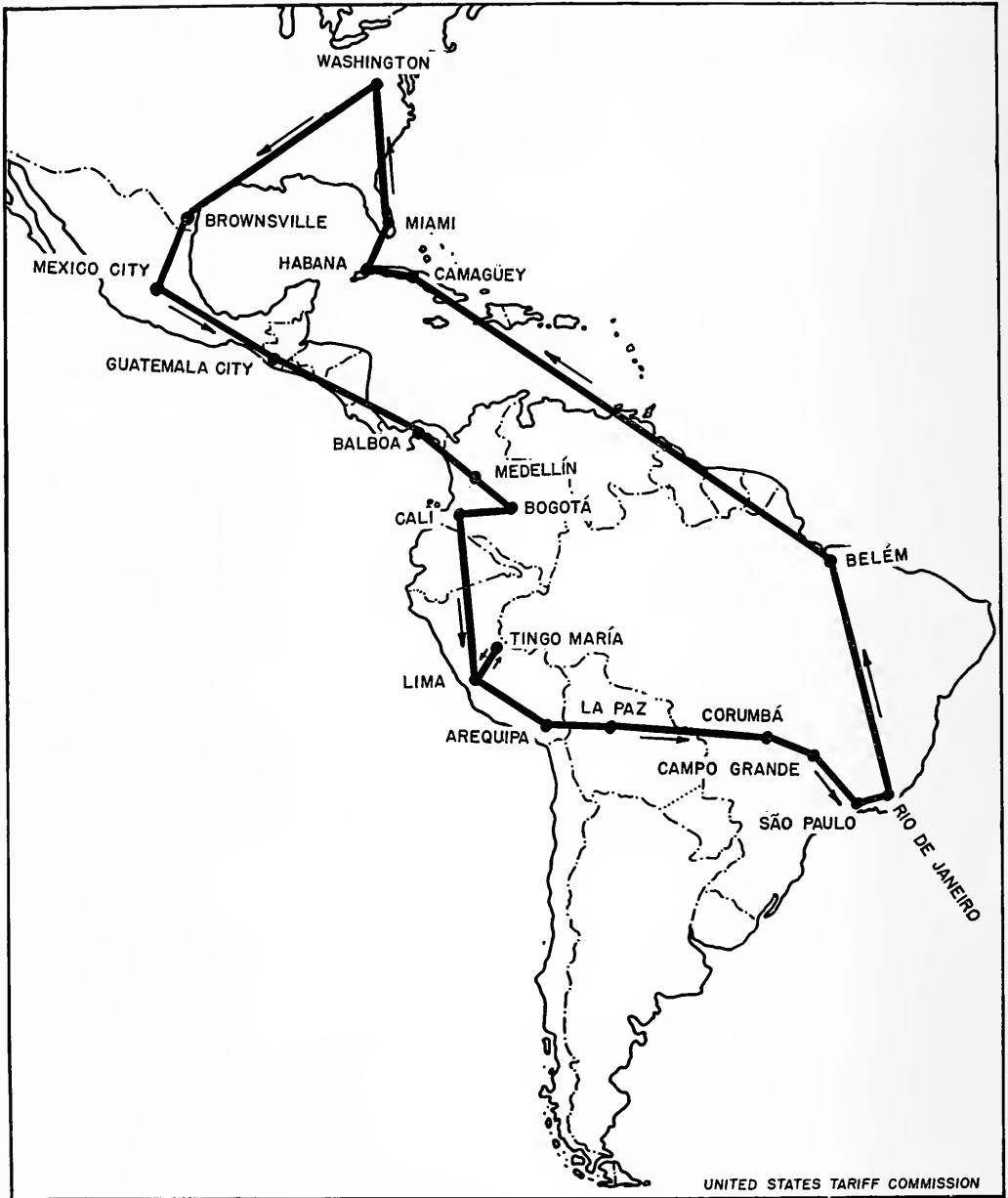
### Part I

#### *Need for United States program of cooperation with other countries apparent before World War I*

THE need for a cooperative educational, scientific and cultural program like the one now sponsored by the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation was quite apparent even before World War I. It was in Europe during 1911-14 that I first recognized such a need. At that time Americans in Europe read articles in the press, saw motion pictures, or heard lectures misrepresenting the United States. Many of these articles, motion pictures, or lectures gave false impressions about our aims and

objectives toward other countries; attempted to discredit our education and culture; and implied that the citizens of the United States were all "money mad," that they knew little or nothing but how to make money, that they were either a soft people or a more or less ignorant people among whom the backwoodsman and pistol-packing cowboy were common types, and that they had nothing to offer the European countries but tips for tourist services and crude, boisterous spending from shadily acquired wealth. As Americans, we resented these false characterizations and misrepresentations.

We took the matter up with our ambas-



INSPECTION TRIP IN 1946 FOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION

sadors and the United States foreign mission personnel, but they usually shrugged their shoulders and said nothing could then be done about it, that the United States would outlive such misrepresenta-

tions, and that, unless Congress appropriated money for true representation of the United States with its democratic culture, education, and economy, these anti-American attacks could be expected

to continue and to do considerable damage to the prestige and reputation of the United States. World War I brought into the open many attacks on the prestige of Western Hemisphere countries. Some of them were silenced as a result of the outcome of the war.

Since then, however, it has been more apparent than ever before that the United States Government needed to adopt a vigorous and constructive foreign policy, including an enlightened program of education and scientific and cultural cooperation with the other countries of the world that would present to all foreign countries the true picture of the United States—our free educational system, democratic government, efficient mass-production economy, wondrous natural beauty, and bounteous resources. Most of all, we needed to let the world know of our desire to use our power and resources not for the domination or subjugation of any other nation, but for the welfare of humanity in a peaceful world.

*Scientific and cultural cooperation not adopted by United States either during the First World War or in interim between the two great conflicts*

Neither during nor after World War I did the lessons which we should have learned from fifth-column activities in Europe and in the Western World bring forth in the United States a vigorous, progressive, and constructive policy of cooperation with other countries in education, scientific research, or other cultural endeavors. Instead, the United States continued to consider misrepresentation of itself either as not dangerous or as something time would correct.

What we utterly failed to perceive was that attacks upon this country, as upon other democracies, were no longer launched by irresponsible individuals or

in a sporadic manner. Rather these attacks were deliberately and maliciously planned by the Axis nations, which were determined to gain control of the world for their own benefit and by whatever means they could use.

It is now generally known that before World War II began, in fact even in the early 1930's, Germany, Italy, and Japan were carrying on government-inspired and often government-subsidized campaigns in the other American Republics to destroy the influence of the United States in those countries and to penetrate their economy and culture so thoroughly that, upon the outbreak of world war, which they knew was coming, these American Republics would continue friendly relations with the Axis and not cooperate with the United States and our Allies in the defense of the civilization of the Western Hemisphere. For example, the Axis countries established



Courtesy of Department of State

#### EAGER TO LEARN ENGLISH

The English-teaching program of the Department of State offers an excellent approach to a better understanding of the United States on the part of Latin Americans.

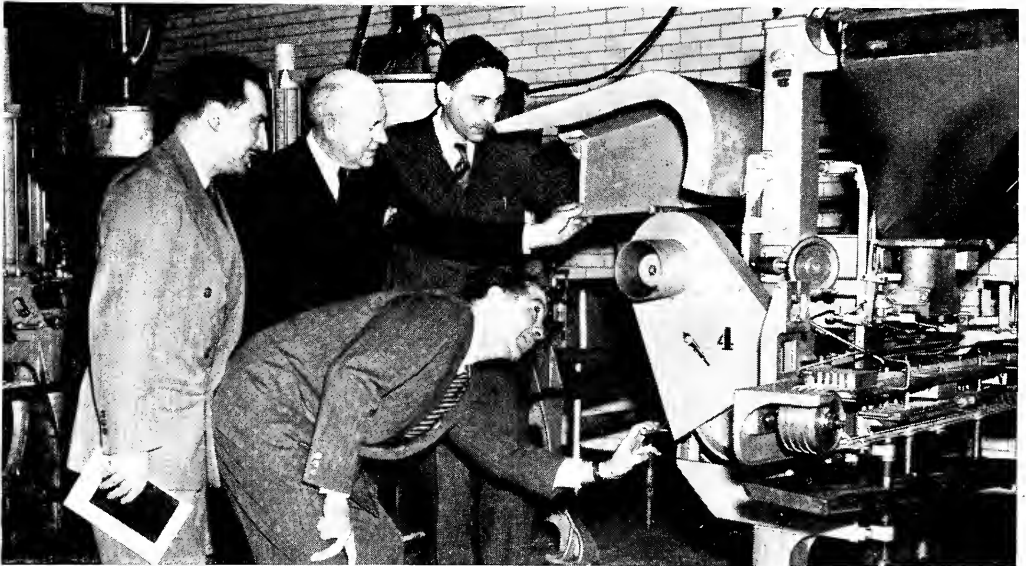


Courtesy of United States Department of Commerce



#### SOME LATIN AMERICAN TRAINEES

Under the projects of the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, many young people have been invited to study and observe technical methods in the United States. Above: With the Honorable Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, are seen a Panamanian, a Mexican, a Chilean, a Bolivian, a Peruvian, and a Brazilian, who were studying different aspects of aviation. At side: A Peruvian, who is responsible for the development of handicraft industries in her country. Below: Three Government safety specialists from Chile, Uruguay, and Brazil inspect modern machinery safeguards in a United States plant.



Courtesy of United States Department of Labor

professorships in universities and filled them with scientists who were loyal to the Axis. They helped Latin American universities obtain German and Italian textbooks and translations of them for use in university classes and libraries, as well as in their national and municipal libraries. They gained control of air transportation companies, supplied technical equipment, and furnished technical advisors to train personnel and to manage the companies. Campaigns were carried on in the public press by subsidizing special magazines and special feature articles in magazines and newspapers; and in many other ways the Axis powers tried to destroy the influence and prestige of the United States and to strengthen their own influence and prestige.

When World War II began in August 1939, the democratic nations, including the United States, faced explosive situations in all the countries of the Americas because of the Axis fifth-column infiltration and propaganda. The Americas immediately took united action in the threatening situation produced by the outbreak of war, convening in September the First Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics. Two other such meetings followed: one at Habana in July 1940, and the other at Rio de Janeiro in 1942. In compliance with the resolutions adopted at those conferences, vigorous programs of cooperation among the American Republics were inaugurated and executed, with the result that Western Hemisphere defense was organized and supported by all



Courtesy of United States Weather Bureau

#### A COOPERATIVE WEATHER PROJECT

High Cuban officials and members of the United States Weather Bureau staff are seen with a radiosonde (the white box), which is attached to a balloon and sent aloft to transmit weather data to ground level. This information is especially useful in giving warning of hurricanes.





Courtesy of U. S. Geological Survey

#### BRAZILIAN STRATEGIC MINERALS HELPED WIN THE WAR

Besides sending troops to Europe, Brazil produced many strategic minerals for the Allies. The United States sent technical assistance to assist in locating new mines and in speeding up operations. Above: A Brazilian-United States field party on the way to examine gold, tin, and iron deposits. Below: The Cruzeiro mica mine, during 1944-45 the world's greatest single producer of mica.

the American Republics, the economic resources of the continent were mobilized, some catastrophic reverses for the cause of the democracies were averted, and the destructive influence of the Axis Fifth Columns was overcome.

*International cooperation is not an issue between the political parties in the United States*

This policy of exchanging scientific information, scientific personnel, university stu-

dents, and professors with various countries for the purposes of education and the promotion of understanding, good will, and peace is not a political issue in the United States. Leaders of both political parties, in and out of Congress, have long advocated it.

One of the earliest of these leaders was Herbert Clark Hoover,<sup>1</sup> then World Food

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Congress, *Report of Senate Committee on Military Affairs on S. 1636, Mar. 12, 1946, pp. 10 and 11.*



Administrator, who in 1920 organized the Belgian-American Educational Foundation from funds left by the liquidation of supplies from the Belgian Relief Committee. The purpose of this foundation was the same as the purpose of the exchange of persons and exchange of technical and scientific information programs begun in 1938 in Latin America under the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation.

Again in 1923 when Mr. Hoover was Secretary of Commerce he tried, though unsuccessfully, to get certain money collected from World War I debts diverted and set aside for these purposes. While President of the United States, he initiated an organization for such cooperation with the Latin American States, but the depression compelled its postponement. Even as late as 1938 he advocated in a public address that funds from payments on war debts by "relief credit countries" like Poland, Belgium, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Greece, Rumania, and Yugoslavia be used for "extension of higher education, scientific research, and for scholarships in their own universities; also for exchange of post-graduate students, professors, and scientific information between the United States" and those countries.

He advocated that these funds be administered jointly by Americans and the nationals of the other countries, thus creating a joint interest from which we should obtain benefits far greater than we should otherwise receive. He said, "The cumulative effect over the years of building up a great body of influential men and women in those countries who would understand our country and believe in us would count greatly in economic relations and in times of international emergency. And we shall have made a contribution to civilization which may be of no quick material value

but which will later serve as a great monument to our foresight."

Mr. Hoover recently<sup>3</sup> pointed to the useful experience gained with the exchange of students with Belgium. He said that Belgium, though a small country, had a better understanding of American ways of life and ideals than many large nations. He felt that in no small degree this was due to the activities of the aforementioned Foundation, which had enabled 477 Belgian students to come to the United States and study at American universities and 225 American students to go to Belgium. As a result one Belgian Prime Minister and 6 Cabinet members did graduate work in the United States.

One of the recent leaders in cultural interchange is Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, who introduced the bill, enacted into law at the last session of Congress, authorizing the Department of State to use some of the proceeds from surplus-property sales abroad for exchanges of students and other educational activities.

*President Roosevelt's request results in organization of Interdepartmental Committee in 1938*

Early in 1938, when it became apparent that a second world war was brewing, President Franklin D. Roosevelt requested that the Secretaries of the several departments and heads of other agencies of the United States Government examine carefully their organizations and fields covered in operations and the conditions in the other countries of America to learn in what scientific and cultural activities this Government could profitably cooperate with those governments. I was somewhat familiar with conditions in Latin America at that time, and I wrote a letter to the President congratulating him upon his

<sup>3</sup> See *Report of the Committee on Military Affairs of the Senate on S. 1636, Mar. 12, 1946, pp. 10 and 11.*



Courtesy of United States Fish and Wildlife Service

#### TROUT HATCHERY AT SALAZAR, MEXICO

At the request of the Government of Mexico a mission was sent to that country by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Department of the Department of the Interior, to offer technical advice in the design and construction of a trout hatchery. Fishing is important not only along Mexican coasts but in the interior.

interest in the matter, encouraging the organization of a full scientific and cultural program in cooperation with the other countries of the Americas, and offering my services in furthering such an undertaking. The President sent my letter to the then Secretary of State, the Honorable Cordell Hull, who initiated the action which resulted in the United States Tariff Commission's having a small part in this new program and in my appointment by the Tariff Commission to represent it on the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation,<sup>2</sup> organized in 1938 as a result of the President's

<sup>2</sup> At the time the Committee was composed of representatives of 13 departments and agencies of the United States Government under the name of the Interdepartmental Committee on Cooperation with the American Republics.

request. Shortly afterward I was asked to serve on the Executive Committee, and I have done so from then to now. In this way I have done what I could to help to develop a sound, constructive program.

For several years before 1938 our Government had, on a permanent peacetime basis, cooperated in some projects but had not been able to respond to many requests from other governments for assistance in additional cooperative enterprises because it had no general enabling legislation or budgeted and appropriated funds with which to carry forward the proposed cooperation. The United States Government departments and agencies reported to the Secretary of State and to the President in response to his request a wide range of activities covering a great variety

of new projects in which our Government could cooperate with the other governments to our mutual advantage. In many of these fields requests for cooperation had already been received from other governments. United States participation just awaited proper Congressional authorization, which was given in 1938.

*United States Congress authorized enlarged program of cooperation in 1938*

On May 25, 1938, an act was approved authorizing the temporary detail of United States employees possessing special qualifications to the governments of the American Republics, Liberia, and the Philippine Islands. This was followed on May 3, 1939, by the amended act now known as Public Law 63 (76th Cong., 53 Stat. 652). In addition, there was approved on August 9, 1939, Public Law 355, which authorized the President to utilize the services of all departments, agencies, and independent establishments of the Government in carrying out reciprocal undertakings and cooperative purposes enunciated in the treaties, resolutions, declarations, and recommendations signed by all of the twenty-one American Republics at the Inter-American Conference on the Maintenance of Peace held at Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1936, and at the Eighth International Conference of American States at Lima, Peru, in 1938.

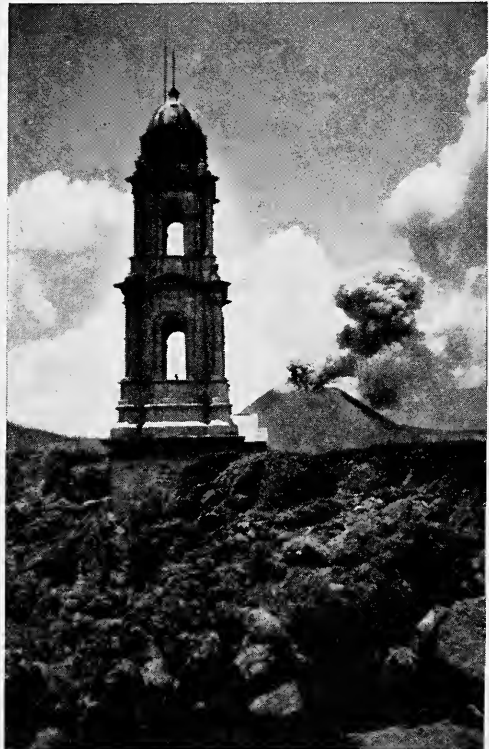
*Cooperative projects carry out commitments made at Buenos Aires and Lima*

At these two conferences—Buenos Aires and Lima—the representatives of the American Republics agreed to undertake a wide range and variety of cooperative projects, many of them scientific and cultural and consequently under the jurisdiction of the Interdepartmental Committee. A single coordinating committee seemed essential to avoid overlapping and

duplication of the many projects of our complex government in carrying out these international conference commitments. This has been one of the objectives of the Interdepartmental Committee.

*Assistant Secretary of State is Chairman of Interdepartmental Committee*

Because this program is international, the Department of State of the United States exercises general policy and administrative leadership. From the beginning, a State Department representative has been chairman of the Interdepartmental Committee—first the Under Secre-



Courtesy of U. S. Weather Bureau

**PARICUTÍN AND ITS RAVAGES**

Two miles from this new Mexican volcano, lava has buried a village church up to the tower. The United States Geological Survey and Coast and Geodetic Survey are participating in seismic and magnetic studies under the program of the Interdepartmental Committee.

tary and now the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

*Many Government departments, agencies, and bureaus take part in program*

Members of the Committee now represent 12 departments and agencies and 36 bureaus of the United States Government. The Committee passes on all bilateral cooperative projects and their budgets and on the allocation of funds for them, avoids duplication wherever possible, and correlates and integrates the projects into one unified program, which is an integral part of the present foreign policy of the United States.

Many individual projects for cooperation with the Latin American Republics are budgeted and funds have been appropriated and allocated to carry them through fiscal year 1947. No doubt the number of cooperative projects will increase as mutual confidence in this Western Hemisphere and in other lands widens and deepens.

The following table shows the United States Government departments and agencies cooperating in the program and the many bureaus and kinds of projects that each one has operated in the fiscal year 1946 or expects to be operating in 1947.

*Cooperative projects, under the Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, fiscal years 1946 and/or 1947*

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations*

Development of complementary products

*Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering*

Development of rubber production

*Bureau of Agricultural Economics*

Training grants

*Agricultural Extension Service*

Training grants

*Soil Conservation Service*

Training grants

*Agricultural Research Administration*

Training grants

*Rural Electrification Administration*

Training grants

*Forest Service*

Training grants

#### BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

Training grants in public administration

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

*Bureau of the Census*

Consulting program—census statistics

Training grants—census statistics

Consulting program—vital statistics

Training grants—vital statistics

*Civil Aeronautics Administration*

Cooperative planning

Foreign and international service

Office of safety regulations

Air navigation facilities service

Air navigation facilities operation

Aviation information and statistics

Pilot training in foreign countries

Mexican pilot training

Brazilian standardization

Pilot training, Country A

Pilot training, Country B

Training grant program

Airways communications and traffic control  
technician training

Mechanics

Pilots

Training grants in United States

Special training in civil aviation

Maintenance training in industry

Training analysis survey

*Coast and Geodetic Survey*

Tidal investigations

Training grants in tides

Magnetic and seismological observations

Training grants in seismology

Geodetic—training grants and detail of experts

Map and chart reproduction—training grants

Hydrographic—training grants and detail of experts

*Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce*

Industrial surveys—investigations

Industrial surveys—training grants

National income—investigations

National income—training grants

*National Bureau of Standards*

Training grants in laboratory standardization  
and testing and administration

*Weather Bureau*

- Radiosonde observation stations—Mexico and Cuba
- Training grants in meteorology
- Survey and development of climatological work in the Caribbean area
- Weather station—Dominican Republic

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

- Training grants

## FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

*Office of Education*

- Convention for Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations (Northbound students)
- Teacher training and exchange
- Consultant service on U. S. education
- Studies of Latin American education

*Public Health Service*

- Detail of medical and scientific personnel
- Fellowships

*Social Security Board*

- Training grants in social security

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

*Fish and Wildlife Service*

- Training grants
- Mexican fishery mission
- Fishery development studies
- Studies of economic status and migration of birds

*Geological Survey*

- Investigation of strategic minerals
- Training grants

*Bureau of Mines*

- Cooperation in development of mining and metallurgy

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Children's Bureau*

- Maternal and child welfare services in cooperation with International Institute for the Protection of Childhood
- Cooperation with national agencies for maternal and child health, etc.

- Training grants

*Division of Labor Standards*

- Training grants
- Technical consultation on industrial safety
- Interchange of information and supervision of training program

*Bureau of Labor Statistics*

- Development of comparable employment statistics

*Women's Bureau*

- Training grants in labor administration
- Interchange of information

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

*Office of the Librarian*

- Inter-American Institute on Library Problems
- Detail of library technicians
- Printing of bibliographical guides

*Reference Department*

- Preparation and distribution of U. S. Quarterly Book List

*Acquisitions Department*

- Exchange of books, photostats, catalog cards, etc.

## THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

- Training grants in archival science

## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

- Cooperation with scientific institutions
- Institute of Social Anthropology
- Identification of Brazilian grasses

## TARIFF COMMISSION

- Training grants and services

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*Central Translating Division**Division of Protocol*

- Miami Reception Center

*Division of Cultural Cooperation*

- Travel of advisory committees
- Reception centers other than Miami reception center

- Grants to visiting professors and hemisphere leaders and specialists

- Grants and services to graduate students

- Travel grants

- Maintenance grants

- Services of Institute of International Education

- Student assistance and loan fund

- Orientation

- Field study grants

- United States students

- Inter-American trade scholarships

- Grants for cultural centers and materials

- United States centers abroad

- United States libraries abroad

- United States schools abroad

- Books and cultural materials

- Music and art

- Field projects

- Translations

*This international cooperation promotes world peace*

This program promotes world peace and friendship, and better education and un-

derstanding through scientific and cultural cooperation, and also specifically helps to fulfill the commitments of the Buenos Aires and Lima Conferences which have these same objectives. It is an aim of the program to stimulate helpful cooperation in as many cultural and scientific projects as practicable, to attempt in this way to eliminate existing international friction, and, as far as possible, help to prevent future international disagreements. Education in the long run constitutes the greatest hope of mankind for future peaceful relations among the nations of this world. This scientific and cultural cooperation with the Western Hemisphere and with the world is an important part in the forward-looking peace program of the United States. In carrying out undertakings of the United States, its citizens will broaden their personal acquaintance with their fellow men in other countries.

This is not in any sense or intention an attempt of one country to control the economic affairs of another; rather it is a strictly bilateral cooperative good-will program, both parties to each project wanting the project, both making a substantial contribution to it, and both obtaining benefits from it.

The program has expanded to meet

opportunities presented and obligations undertaken in response to requests from neighboring countries to the South; and it has proved so successful in furthering friendly cooperation with the other American governments that the Congress of the United States and the authorities of most of the other countries have each year expanded in a thoughtful and conservative way the appropriations for new projects, thus encouraging wider participation.

*Costs little but contributes much toward peace*

This cooperation is a very economical and sensible way to promote a continuing peace. Testimony before a Senate committee recently showed that what the United States spends for all activities on behalf of peace during a whole year is no more than it spent during every 30 minutes of World War II. In fact, the United States would spend only an insignificant amount for all of these cooperative scientific and cultural projects, even if the program is extended to all countries of the world, compared with the amount it spent during a single minute of the war just ended. A cooperative educational program costs comparatively little and does much toward making a peaceful world.



# General Juan Perón

## President of the Argentine Republic

GENERAL Juan Perón was born October 8, 1895, at Lobos in the province of Buenos Aires. He lived there with his parents until he was five years old. At that time the family moved to a place near the Gallegos River in the territory of Santa Cruz, where they spent the next five years. Then in 1905 the Perón family settled in Buenos Aires, where the boy completed his primary studies and began his secondary course. Before he was sixteen he entered the National Military School. He left that institution as a second lieutenant of infantry in December 1913, when he had just reached the age of eighteen. He was first ordered to the "General Arenales" regiment of infantry, the 12th, where he remained until March 1915, when he was assigned as assistant to Military District No. 58. In December of that year he was advanced to the rank of first lieutenant.

His promotion to a full lieutenancy came at the end of 1919, when he passed to the Sargento Cabral school for officers. At that institution he devoted himself to sports, and received very high marks. He stayed at this school six years, and was made captain in December 1924.

In April of the following year he entered the Advanced War College, and there he completed the course. After various field trips he obtained his commission as staff officer.

In 1929 he was admitted to the general staff of the army, where he served in the operations division until September 1930, when he was assigned to serve in the Ministry of War. On December 1 of that year, he was appointed professor of military history at the Advanced War College, without prejudice to his duties in the



Ministry. In 1932 he was named aide-de-camp by General Manuel A. Rodríguez, who was then Minister of War, but continued to hold his chair of military history.

It was at this time that Perón published his book *The Eastern Front in the World War of 1914—Strategic Studies*. In November 1933 he was appointed permanent professor at the Advanced War College, holding the chair of his choice. He continued his theoretical studies on the science and history of war, and produced *Notes on Military History—Theory*. The next year he published his third book, *Russo-Japanese War*, in three volumes. Then came *The Military Operations of 1870* (two volumes). After that he devoted himself to the preparation of a work on military

history, which has been interrupted by the manifold duties devolving upon him since that time. The subject, upon which he has spent many years of research, pertains to the life and work of General San Martín.

Perón was military attaché of the Argentine embassy in Chile, a post to which he had been appointed in January 1936, when in December of that year he received his promotion to the rank of lieutenant colonel. A few months later, on April 7, 1937, his duties at the embassy were expanded and he took on the additional function of air attaché. After two years in Chile he returned to his own country and entered the operations division of the general staff of the army. As professor of combined operations in the Naval War College he was entrusted, in 1938, with a journey for purposes of study through Patagonia and the Comodoro Rivadavia zone.

Lieutenant Colonel Perón embarked for Europe at the beginning of 1939, and there devoted himself to extending his knowledge of the organization and command of mountain troops. For this purpose he joined the Tridentine Alps division in the Tyrol, then moved on to the Pinerolo Mountain infantry division in the Abruzzi mountains, and finally went to the Aosta school of mountain-climbing and skiing and the Sestriere school of skiing. He spent almost two years in Europe, visiting France, Germany, Hungary, Albania, and Spain, and witnessing the opening events of the great war.

Because of the special studies on mountain troops which he had made in the Old World, he was sent as special staff officer to the Argentine Mountain Training Center, where he was made acting director in June 1942. He also held the command of the Mendoza Mountain Detachment, and took part in the final exercises at Diamante Lake.

He remained at that post until he joined the mountain troop inspection. Commissioned colonel on June 30, 1942, he was made director of the special winter and high mountain courses which were given at Puente del Inca in August of the same year.

Colonel Perón was one of the leaders of the revolution of June 4, 1943. On the day of the revolution he was appointed Chief of Staff of the first army division, and a few days later he became chief of the secretariat of the Ministry of War. He was made chairman of the National Labor Bureau, which has since been abolished; there he devoted himself to the organization of the present Department of Labor and Social Security, where he outlined the modifications which have been made since then in that branch of national activity. The chief executive made him head of the new department in November 1943, and he filled that office simultaneously with his other functions.

In March 1944 he was made acting Secretary of State in the War Department; the appointment was confirmed by the Government in May of the same year. On July 7, 1944, Colonel Perón was raised to the vice-presidency of the nation.

Later, by decree of the chief executive, he assumed the chairmanship of the National Postwar Council to direct the formulation and solution of the economic and social problems which the country will have to face in the future.

In November 1945 he resigned the positions which he had been occupying, in order to accept the candidacy for the presidency of the nation. At the elections of February 24, 1946 he was victorious by a large majority of electoral votes (304 against 72), and he assumed the presidency of the nation June 4. Meanwhile, he had been readmitted to the army with the rank of general.



# An Oregonian in Haiti

MERCER COOK

*Professor of Romance Languages, Howard University; Former Supervisor, English Teaching Project in Haiti*

ONE of the most successful but least publicized of our intercultural experiments with Haiti is the mission of a young Oregonian, Miss Dorothy Kirby, who has just completed her second year as principal of the newly organized secondary school for girls in Port-au-Prince. In many respects her story may serve as an inspiration and, we hope, as an example for others in the field.

Until February 1944, when the Office of Inter-American Affairs sent Miss Kirby to Haiti as a member of the English Teaching Project, she had taught Spanish, French, and sometimes Latin and English in the public high school of her native town, La Grande, Oregon. In addition, she had served as librarian of that institution. A graduate of the University of Oregon and Middlebury College, she had supplemented her training by travel in France, Cuba, and Mexico.

No sooner had she arrived in Port-au-Prince than she startled the supervisor of the Project by asking to be stationed in one of the provincial *lycées*. The overwhelming majority of her compatriots preferred Port-au-Prince because it is healthier and more modern, and, being the capital, possesses a larger American colony than any of the smaller cities. Miss Kirby was appointed teacher of English at the Lycée Philippe Guerrier at Aux Cayes, a southern town which was once a thriving seaport.

Despite the debilitating climate and the strangeness of the environment, the American girl worked untiringly. Instead of

teaching the required fifteen hours a week, she devoted twice that time to *lycée* students and to friends anxious to learn English. Even in the lethargic Haitian afternoon, her classes were a joy to watch. Her principal and colleagues wondered where she got the energy. The students, who had never before encountered so dynamic a teacher, responded beautifully and made remarkable progress. Even the dread anopheles seemed to respect Miss Kirby; at any rate, she somehow escaped malaria—perhaps she simply had no time for it!

The following summer, the Haitian educational authorities were in something of a quandary. Their one national secondary school for girls, which had been opened the previous October, had no principal, for the Frenchwoman who had directed the institution had just retired. With the exception of the supervisor, Miss Kirby and all the other American teachers of English were about to return to the United States. The meager Haitian budget would not permit the school officials to offer a salary comparable to that which Miss Kirby would receive at home. Yet they knew of her competence and of her sincere interest in the country; and they especially wanted to get the school started under the supervision of someone able to merge the best features of United States and French secondary education. Apologetically because of the salary, they tendered her the post.

About the same time, she received by

cable an offer of a much more lucrative, permanent position in the United States. She accepted the Haitian invitation, but for one year only so that no islander might feel that an American intended to hold an administrative job in the public school system indefinitely. Miss Kirby's decision to direct the girls' secondary school was probably motivated largely by a desire to help young Haitian women to better educational opportunity. Admission to the Medical School, Law School, and other branches of the University depended on the baccalaureate (Certificate of Secondary Studies). Though there were eight national institutions in which boys might work toward this degree, girls had previously enjoyed no such privilege. A few had been allowed to enter boys' *lycées*, but this was awkward in a country that frowns on coeducation. As a result, save for rare exceptions, young women were effectively barred from the professions. Never before had the Government accepted the responsibility of offering work on the secondary level to Haitian girls. With masculine vanity, many considered woman's mind incapable of comprehending the mysteries of physics, philosophy, and advanced mathematics. This was a challenge that the young Oregonian had to meet; this was a modern type of pioneering.

On the other hand, Miss Kirby knew that she would face many difficulties. As an American, working under a Minister who was constantly accused of attempting to Americanize the Haitian schools, she anticipated criticism (which never became as violent or as widespread as she had feared). Faculty morale might be low, for all of the teachers were underpaid, and several had hoped for her position, even though they did not possess the B. A. degree for which they were to prepare the students. Furthermore, she realized that deep-rooted tradition and the tropical

inertia would handicap any attempted innovation.

Nevertheless, the *lycée* reopened, under Miss Kirby's direction, in October 1944, with nine teachers—including the principal, who taught English—and 34 students. The latter were divided into two classes: 11 in *Seconde* and 23 in *Quatrième*. Within a few weeks the new principal had endeared herself to the student body and to most of the faculty. They realized that here was a person who had something to offer, an able educator, a sincere friend unspoiled by any superiority complex based on difference in culture or in epidermis. Unable to modify the official program of studies prescribed by the law, she stimulated scholarship among her girls. With the aid of the Director General of Urban Education and friends at home, she collected and catalogued a small library of French and English books. No other Haitian school, to my knowledge, had a lending library. "You can't let the students borrow these volumes," an administrator warned, "you'll lose most of them before the end of the term." Two years later only five books had disappeared.

To help develop initiative, responsibility, and *esprit de corps*, the principal organized the girls into a club which was, in effect, a first step toward student government. Unnecessary restrictions—such as the ban on student use of the telephone, or requiring all the girls to remain in one classroom during study hour—were removed. Boarding students desirous of staying in the dormitory over the week-end were encouraged to do so, even though this meant that the principal and one matron were obliged to remain with them. Social affairs, arranged entirely by the girls, were conducted without a hitch. In June 1945 a playlet on famous women in Haitian history was presented first in English and then in French to an enthusiastic audience



Courtesy of Mercer Cook

### THE FIRST SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IN HAITI

Miss Kirby, the principal, is seated in the middle of the faculty.

that included the American Ambassador and Mrs. Orme Wilson, the Minister of Public Instruction, the Director General of Urban Education, and other Haitian dignitaries. A large delegation from the leading Catholic school for girls also attended.

At the end of the school year, the Haitians—officials, parents, and students—begged Miss Kirby to return, at least for one more year. “You simply must see your girls through the baccalaureate examination,” they pleaded. “She has shown us what a girls’ secondary school should be,” one official said. “There hasn’t been a single serious disciplinary problem in her school all year.” In the meantime, applications for admission the following year were pouring in; eighty girls were asking to enter a class with only thirty places available.

A brief visit to her mother in Oregon during the month of August 1945, and Miss Kirby was back at her post in Haiti. Once again she had made the financial

sacrifice, but this time she insisted that she could remain but one year. The school continued to function successfully, with nine teachers and an enrollment of sixty-three: eleven in *Première*, twenty-one in *Troisième*, and thirty-one in *Quatrième*.

Then, in January 1946 came the revolution! The President and his Cabinet were swept out of office. At least six principals of the nine national secondary schools were compelled to resign. Miss Kirby was one of the three who remained. On several occasions, after the Government had been overthrown, the disorders were renewed, and students of various schools went out on strike. Miss Kirby’s girls refused to participate. What was even more remarkable, the color question which raged throughout most areas of Haitian life, including the schools, never became critical at the girls’ *lycée*. When this delicate subject first threatened to engulf the entire nation, Miss Kirby called the girls together and announced: “We were all friends before the revolution, and color

didn't make any difference. As long as I am principal here, I intend that it shall continue that way."

But the young principal's greatest pre-occupation was the approaching government examination for her eleven girls in *Première (Rhétorique)*. How could they keep their mind on their studies with all the political unrest? This examination, in the final analysis, would be the acid test of her labors. Even in normal years, the percentage of failing students was distressingly high, sometimes more than fifty percent.

When this year's results were tabulated, Miss Kirby's eleven candidates had all passed. One hundred percent success for the Lycée de Jeunes Filles! A signal achievement for the girls, to be sure, but an even greater satisfaction and tribute to a young Oregonian who had personified the true spirit of Pan Americanism. After the examination Miss Kirby returned to the United States, still determined, friendly, indefatigable, unassuming, and thoroughly astonished when I complimented her on having translated the Good Neighbor Policy into unforgettable action.

## Agriculture in the Brazilian Pine Country

PIMENTEL GOMES

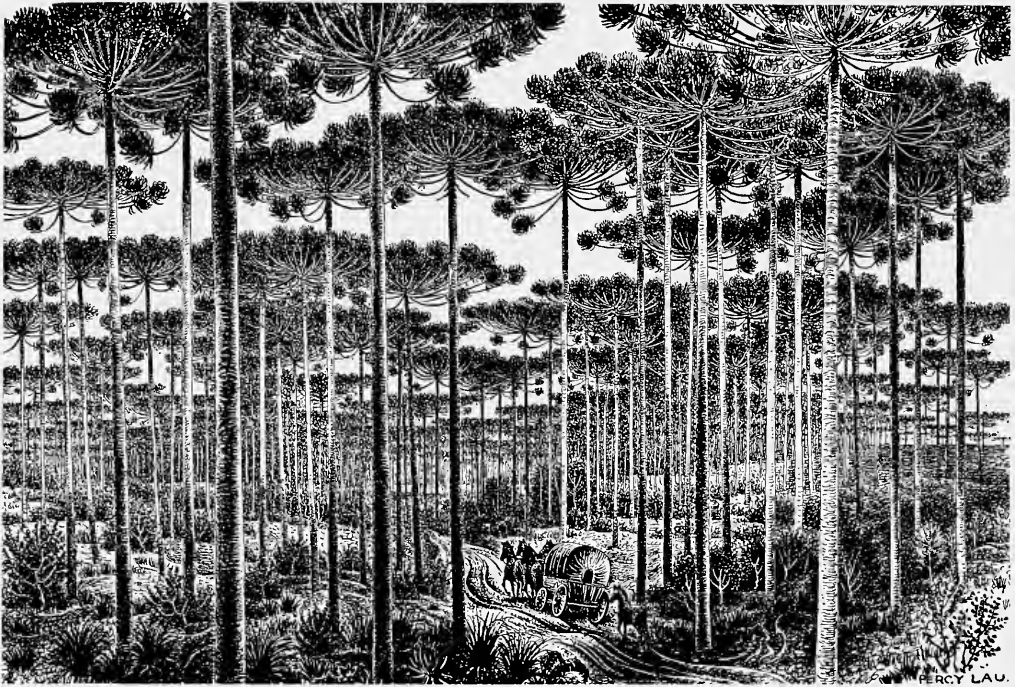
LEAVING São Paulo by automobile in October 1945, I journeyed in leisurely fashion through the States of Paraná, Santa Catarina, and northern Rio Grande do Sul. Later, I travelled by plane over the same region. In April of this year I returned to Curitiba, a rapidly growing city of cool and invigorating winters on the high, fertile plateau that the pine groves cover with their umbrella-tops. Driving westward I reached the tiny town of Foz do Iguassu, a few miles from the National Park and the falls of the same name, on the borders of Paraguay and Argentina. I was impressed by the contrast between the climate, types of vegetation, and customs of this zone, which extends from 24° south latitude to the northern part of Rio Grande do Sul, and those of São Paulo, generally included in this region by Brazilian geographers. A

more accurate division is that made by United States specialists who assign São Paulo, with Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, and Espírito Santo, to Central Brazil and call it "The heart of Brazil." For there, at the present time, in 11 percent of the area of the country lives 40 percent of its population. Considered ecologically, São Paulo, except for a small eastern portion, is not a southern state. The northern part of Paraná also belongs to Central Brazil, but the twenty-fourth parallel separates the two geo-ecological regions. Let us call the section extending from the twenty-fourth parallel southward to northern Rio Grande do Sul "The pine country."

### *Characteristics*

The pine country is composed chiefly of a gently rolling plateau largely covered by luxuriant forests of great economic value.

*Summarized and translated from "Digesto Econômico," São Paulo, April-May 1946.*



Reproduced from *People and Scenes of Brazil*

### THE BRAZILIAN PINE COUNTRY

In the pine forests extending from 24° S. to the northern part of Rio Grande do Sul there are many open spaces devoted to agriculture. (Drawing by Percy Lau.)

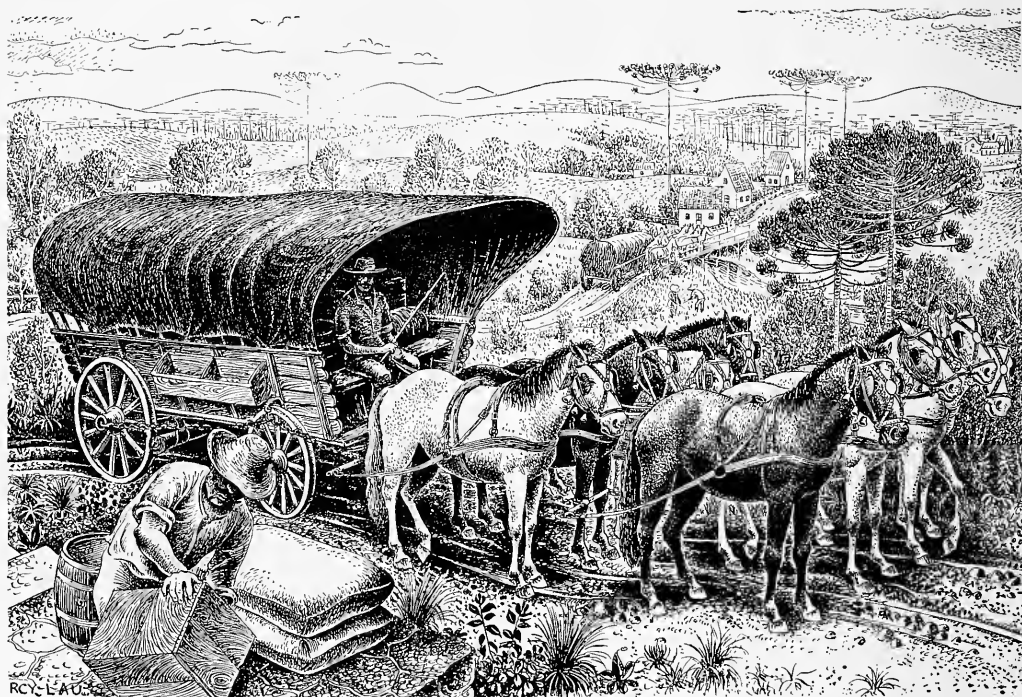
Scattered here and there among the forests are enormous grassy openings which, from the plane, appear as large patches of vivid green or yellow-green, sharply contrasting with the darker color of the forests. Along the river banks, near the sources of their tributaries, and on some of the eastern slopes the forest springs up again in thick clumps, dotting the landscape with islands and archipelagos. It is in a stretch beyond Ponta Grossa (Paraná), around Lages (Santa Catarina) and around Vacaria (Rio Grande do Sul) that thin soil and rocky hills commence.

Although the pine forest is the distinguishing characteristic of the region, there are farms, both large and small, and numerous rivers. The frequent waterfalls are a guarantee of an intensive industrialization which has already been begun.

Among the falls must be mentioned Iguassu, one of the wonders of the world. I have looked at it from both sides of the river. I have flown slowly above it. Viewed from any angle, Iguassu Falls are an imposing spectacle. In this great cataract there are millions of horsepower in reserve—5,000,000 in the period of high flood, according to some engineers—ready for the needs of the Brazil of tomorrow. The development of the falls for hydro-electric power would be comparatively easy.

#### *The population*

The population of the pine region is almost 100 percent white, a large part of it fair descendants of German, Polish, Ukrainian, and Italian settlers. In Prudentópolis there is a Greek Orthodox



Reproduced from *People and Scenes of Brazil*

#### A BRAZILIAN COVERED WAGON

"Pressing onward from the steppes of eastern Europe, entire families move along the dusty roads in their characteristic wagons." (Drawing by Percy Lau.)

church. Assimilation of the population into Brazilian life is being accomplished in a satisfactory manner. Pressing onward from the steppes of eastern Europe, entire families move along the dusty roads in their characteristic wagons. Driving the many horses of these cumbersome but extremely useful vehicles seems to be one of the greatest pleasures of the rural dwellers of this interesting region.

#### *Principal crops*

In October (spring in southern Brazil) the major crops are the small grains—wheat, oats, rye, and barley. Wheat fields are to be found everywhere, showing practically and indisputably that Brazil can produce wheat. On every hand there is a good crop of grain for the area cultivated, to the satisfaction of the farmer. We

should have wheat in Brazil and should not be obliged to ask favors of other countries, if we gave these farmers what they need for a much greater production: agricultural machinery, good seed in sufficient quantities, granaries, and means of transportation. The departments of agriculture of the states concerned have not allotted to the farmers even a small fraction of what they request of the agricultural experts who visit them.

Flax is another important crop under cultivation. Planted for the fiber, rather than for seed as along the Uruguayan border, its cultivation is widespread. Much of the flax is processed, spun, and woven by the farmers themselves, who have not forgotten the customs of the Ukraine and Poland. In some localities, such as Prudentópolis, flax is the most

common fiber. Woven from it are tablecloths, sailcloth, wagon covers, bags for maté, and rope. The many small antiquated plants are now being modernized. What is needed is good seed, agricultural machinery, fertilizer, and organization. The farmers' association is requesting co-operatives, to be financed by the Cooperative Credit Fund; the first cooperative has already been organized. A large spinning mill, which might be located in Curitiba, is greatly needed. If well-organized efforts were exerted, within two years Brazil could become one of the greatest flax-producing countries in the world.

This wonderfully rich agricultural region has great possibilities for supplying the

nation with many foodstuffs. In the summer, corn, rice, beans, and other vegetables are grown. Fruit-growing in the temperate climates has an extraordinary future. Notable for their size, shape, soundness, and abundance are the pears, apples, peaches, quinces, and plums. The pears are enormous and delicious. Because of marketing difficulties, however, the orchards are no longer cultivated on a big scale, and large quantities of the fruit are fed to hogs, while to our shame we in Rio and São Paulo, Recife and Pôrto Alegre, Belo Horizonte and Belém, Curitiba and Fortaleza eat imported fruit, expensive and not always of the best.

The vineyards in existence are full of possibilities. They are already expanding in a gratifying manner in the extreme south of the region, where the plateau flattens out in fertile, well-watered plains. There is located our present wine country, although other sections are being developed for this purpose in Santa Catarina, Paraná, São Paulo, and Minas Gerais. Still others will be added in the north, since conditions are favorable in certain stretches of Bahia and the Northeast.

### Forests

In this characteristically wooded region are found Brazil's most valuable forests. They constitute a happy combination of which the pines are the predominating feature. Beside the extremely beautiful and useful pines grow magnificent cedars and *imbuías*, esteemed for their beautiful grain. Twisted, old, and knotted, the *imbuías* seem decrepit and melancholy beings. Yet one of them of average size in the deep forest is valued at a high sum. In the shade of the pines, cedars, and *imbuías* rise the maté trees, with their leathery leaves from which a popular beverage like tea is made. Familiar sights in the region are the numerous saw-



Reproduced from People and Scenes of Brazil

### DRYING MATÉ

Maté is the favorite beverage of many South Americans. The *barbaquá* is the frame stretched over the fire on which it is dried. (Drawing by Percy Lau.)



mills, and the *barbaquás* where maté branches are placed to dry.

*Mining, industries, and transportation*

The pine country is by no means poor in minerals. Hard coal, diamonds, and gold are being actively produced. There are many minor industries. The abundance of raw material and of hydraulic energy and the enterprising population are guarantees of a rapid industrial development.

The greatest obstacle to this development has been transportation difficulties.

The few railroads are poorly equipped. Often wheat will spoil and lumber deteriorate for lack of transportation. Although the highways are not good, nevertheless they are an important supplement to the railroads.

Fortunately the Federal Government is acquiring the equipment necessary for repairing the railroads. Volta Redonda, the great steel center, will give us by the end of this year rails for new tracks. The federal government is also constructing expertly engineered highways which in a short time will provide a rapid and efficient transportation system for this region.

## Bolívar in Mexico

ON July 24, the 163rd anniversary of the birth of Simón Bolívar, Mexico received from Venezuela an equestrian statue of this famous son of Caracas, whose "sun looms larger to every generation of this our western world." He was one of the great leaders of independence, a brilliant soldier who freed five countries from Spain and brought Spanish rule in South America to an end. Looking into the future with prophetic vision, he championed republican and constitutional government, advocated arbitration as the best solution of international disputes, and proposed congresses of American countries for discussion of and action on their interrelations. The Congress of Panama, which convened in 1826 at his call, was the forerunner of the eight International Conferences of American States, often known as the Pan American Conferences. These have played the leading role in "peace in this continent and the generous unity that sustains it."

The new statue of Bolívar is the work of the Mexican sculptor Emilio Centurión.

The site chosen for the monument is a prominent one: the circle near Chapultepec Park where an extension of the Paseo de la Reforma is crossed by Melchor Ocampo and Mariano Escobedo Avenues. Around the pedestal are staffs for the flags of all the American republics. The bright colors of these standards added to the brilliance of the scene when President Manuel Ávila Camacho of Mexico and President Raúl Betancourt of the Revolutionary Junta of Venezuela arrived with their parties for the presentation ceremonies. A throng was awaiting them.

After the statue had been unveiled with due honor, President Betancourt presented it to the government and people of Mexico in the name of the government and people of Venezuela. In the course of his address he said:

Today we in America are revaluing the worship of our heroes. We not only portray their features in marble or bronze, but we try to give their messages present-day significance, incorporate their beliefs in our store of ideas, and follow faith-





Courtesy of Dr. Pedro de Alba

#### THE BOLÍVAR MONUMENT IN MEXICO CITY

President Betancourt of the Revolutionary Government Junta of Venezuela (left center) and President Ávila Camacho of Mexico (right center) leaving the ceremonies.

fully their example in the daily tasks we perform, whether as officials or as private citizens.

We can adapt to the great figures of our American past what José Martí remarked of Simón Bolívar and say: "They still have work to do in America." From their zealous and uncompromising continentalism we should learn the lesson of firmness in defense of our sovereign rights, especially now that we see rising from the embers of the second world war not the beautiful Rooseveltian myth of the equality of great and small nations but the oligarchy of the strong dictating the fate of the weak. Through the faith of our forefathers in American unity we should strengthen our faith in the necessity of federating our efforts towards emancipation, for only thus can we play a dignified role on the stage of world politics. Through the patriarchs' unlimited confidence in democracy as the best possible form of government and in the people as its architect, we should arm ourselves with arguments with which to face the approaching world crisis, when reactionaries will again raise the flag of totalitarianism because of the manifest powerlessness shown by the conquerors of the Axis to build a just and lasting peace.

President Ávila Camacho accepted the gift on behalf of the nation, saying of Bolívar:

. . . Mexico and Venezuela wish to pay him the best possible tribute: that of living in the intimate relation that he preached when he said: "It is a grandiose idea to form a single nation of all the New World, with a single bond linking all its parts."

A grandiose idea, indeed, and an ideal that we are gradually approaching, not by subordinating the various sovereign American states to a single state, but by respecting the rights of each, within the framework of an association in which the firm

bond of which the Liberator speaks is not the rule of the strong over the weak but the recognition that every collectivity has an intrinsic and irreplaceable value, and that the value of each contributes to the value of the whole.

Instead of suffering from an imposed and artificial uniformity, the unity of America thrives on our rich diversity. It is expressed in a dialogue that coordinates and harmonizes viewpoints, and not in a monologue in which the voice of the violent overpowers the voice of the timid.

With every passing day inter-Americanism becomes more thoroughly steeped in Bolívar's political beliefs. And, since no American nation seeks to base the peace of America on isolation, but since all the nations agree that the peace in this continent and the generous unity that sustains it offer the world a new formula for conduct, we feel that Bolívar's contribution is not limited to our hemisphere and that his function as liberator continues to be useful to all the countries of the earth.

An interesting sonnet sequence called *Bolivariana* was read by its author, Dr. Francisco Castillo Nájera, Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has been much in the public eye recently while representing Mexico on the Council of the United Nations.

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, sent a short message of congratulation on the occasion, which was read by Dr. Pedro de Alba, Assistant Director. A Venezuelan and a second Mexican orator closed the ceremonies with eloquent tributes to Bolívar. "In all the records of glory none is greater."

# In Our Hemisphere—II

## Buenos Aires

WHAT is the largest capital in the Americas? Buenos Aires. Its population is 2,616,624.

What is the only American capital that has subways? Buenos Aires. It has five.

Where is the widest avenue in the world? In Buenos Aires. It is the Avenida Nueve de Julio, 400 feet wide, and now 10 blocks long. A picture of it appears below. Beneath this avenue is an underground parking place that can hold hundreds of cars. The street gets its name from July 9, the date when Argentine independence was proclaimed in 1816.

When was Buenos Aires founded? It

was founded twice, once from the sea and once from inland. The first time was in 1536, but after many hardships the settlement failed. In 1580 Buenos Aires was founded again, this time from Asunción, now the capital of Paraguay. The obelisk on Avenida Nueve de Julio was erected to mark the four hundredth anniversary of the first founding.

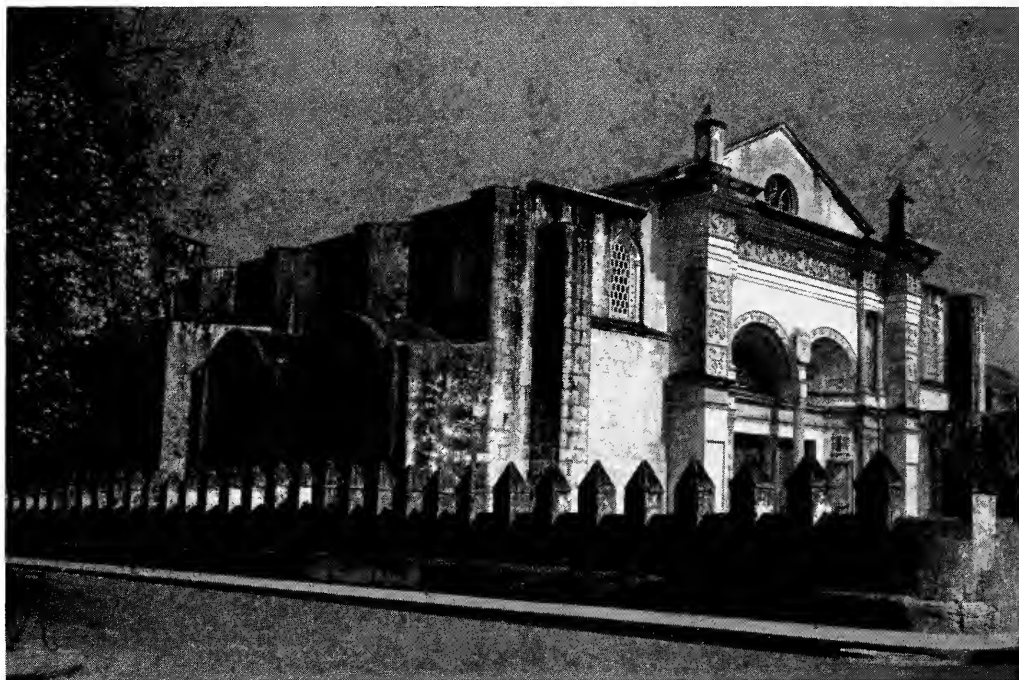
Buenos Aires is the foremost Latin American port. To it come the ships of all nations, to carry away Argentine meat, wheat, corn, linseed, wool, and many other products. They anchor at wharves along the broad Plata—the Silver River.

Buenos Aires has the largest opera house in the world, where famous stars appear.



AVENUE NUEVE DE JULIO, BUENOS AIRES

The widest avenue in the world, in the largest American capital.



Courtesy of the Dominican Embassy

### THE CATHEDRAL, CIUDAD TRUJILLO

Oldest of the cathedrals in the New World, this church shelters the bones of Columbus. He asked to be buried in Santo Domingo, as the city was then called.

There are many handsome motion picture theaters, for which the Argentines import some films and make others of their own.

Buenos Aires is the leader among all Spanish-speaking cities in the Americas in book publishing.

People in Buenos Aires enjoy their fine parks, municipal bathing resorts along the river, museums, university, big and little stores, and all the bustle and life of a large city. They work hard, too, in the port, in the packing plants, and in many factories, business houses, and offices.

### Ciudad Trujillo

Ciudad Trujillo, which is celebrating its 450th anniversary this year, is the oldest city founded by white men in the Western Hemisphere. Still standing in the streets

of the Dominican capital, in spite of the sieges of invading armies, the attacks of pirates, and the ravages of hurricanes and earthquakes, are a number of buildings dating from the days when it was the political and cultural center of the New World. Among these are the *Alcázar de Colón* (now minus its roof), the fortress-mansion of Diego Columbus, who governed the colony from 1509 to 1522; the Tower of Homage, the first fortification erected in the city (1502-1510), which is said to have been built to honor the Discoverer; and the church and monastery of Santo Domingo. The latter was the seat of the University of St. Thomas Aquinas (the first university founded by papal bull in the Americas), which lasted through the colonial period. Most interesting of all is the Cathedral of Santa María, which stands on the main

plaza, the Parque Colón. Begun in 1514 and finished in 1540, it is the oldest cathedral in the hemisphere. Its frescoed façade, mellowed by four centuries of exposure, is in the Spanish Renaissance style, but the interior is Gothic. In a marble monument rest the remains of Christopher Columbus, who discovered the island of Hispaniola on his first voyage to the New World.

In striking contrast to these vestiges of colonial days is the rest of the capital, most of which has been built since 1930 when a hurricane all but completely destroyed the city. Since that date large modern avenues have been opened, residential sections

have been replanned and rebuilt, modern hospitals and government buildings have been constructed, old parks have been re-landscaped and new ones created, and port facilities have been greatly improved. Present-day Ciudad Trujillo is well-paved, well-lighted, and exceptionally clean. It is to be hoped that the damage inflicted by the recent earthquakes is not extensive.

On a promontory near the capital, the twenty-one American republics are planning to erect a huge lighthouse as a memorial to Columbus, which will take the form of a giant recumbent cross pointing symbolically toward the West.



## Rio de Janeiro

All great cities have distinct individualities. Henry Van Dyke wrote the familiar lines:

Oh, London is a man's town, there's power in the air;  
And Paris is a woman's town, with flowers in her hair.

Rio resembles one of the women the Renaissance artists loved to paint: opulent in beauty and color, "set in a cirque of fantastic rocks."

But while the lady might be portrayed against many backgrounds, Rio is one with its mountain pinnacles and sea. They are part of its plan, its way of life, and its habits of thought. The city is of course

cosmopolitan, but it is also truly Brazilian, with all the Brazilian warmth and good humor.

Almost everyone has heard of the tall figure of Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado; of Sugarloaf; of the city's mosaic sidewalks; of the many modern government buildings; of the parks and the great Botanical Garden; of the famous tree-lined Avenida Beira-Mar (Portuguese for Seashore Avenue) along which dash buses and cars; of the skyscraper apartment houses behind Copacabana Beach; of the gracious old churches in which the carved altars are covered with gold leaf; of the carnival and carnival songs. To make this seem a living city, you must add to the picture the many children going to pleasant schools (one is named for the United States); the sidewalk coffee-houses full of customers; the workers in the textile mills; the innumerable little shops where leather goods and other wares are made by hand; the government housing projects at which much is done to help the tenants; the university students and their clubhouse; the bathers and the young men out sculling on the bay in the early morning, and many other human touches.

Rio has a unique bit of history for an American capital: For thirteen years (1808-21) it was the seat of a European court, since at the time of the Napoleonic invasion the rulers of Portugal, with 15,000 followers, fled to safety in the country's American colony.

## Mexico City

If the hill of Chapultepec could talk it could tell one of the most fascinating stories ever told. More than 600 years ago (around 1325 according to legend) it saw the Aztecs build Tenochtitlán and watched the city grow into the rich and

magnificent center of a powerful empire. Then, in 1519, it saw the Spaniards come, and watched them conquer and destroy Tenochtitlán. It saw the central square of the Aztecs become the main square of a new city that was made the seat of the great Viceroyalty of New Spain. On the north side of this square, now known as the *Zócalo*, the great Cathedral was begun in 1573 on the spot where the temple to the war god Huitzilopochtli had stood, and on the east side the Aztec royal palace was replaced first by the house of Cortés and later by the National Palace, which now contains the offices of the Mexican President and several government departments. For 300 years Chapultepec watched the colonial city grow in elegance and then in 1821 saw it become the capital of an independent nation.

Today the hill looks down on a great modern metropolis, which with its broad avenues, spacious flowered parks, and proud buildings has become the symbol of the republic. Among the colonial churches and mansions and the ornate nineteenth-century structures, modernistic commercial and public buildings stretch toward the blue Mexican sky. Educational institutions range from the stately old buildings of the University of Mexico, some of which date from viceregal days, to the streamlined Centro Escolar de la Revolución, which was completed in 1934 and accommodates 5,000 students. Modern shops offering the products of large-scale Mexico City factories and of distant countries vie with the market places where Indians still sell their baskets, serapes, and hand-made pottery, and on the streets the latest fashions from Paris and New York contrast sharply with Indian costumes.

Last year a new chapter was added to the story the hill could tell when

representatives of the Americas gathered in Chapultepec Castle, which has stood on its heights since 1785, for the historic

Inter-American Conference on Problems of War and Peace.

*(Next month: Some Latin American coins.)*



Photograph by Luis Márquez

### THREE EPOCHS IN THE MEXICAN CAPITAL

Mexico City today shows evidences of many periods in the city's history.



## Todo sube de precio, todo, querido viejo

LA FRASE se la repiten todos los días las dueñas de casa a sus amados consortes. Lo ideal fuera que las cosas subieran de precio, sin subir. ¿Cómo realizar ese milagro? Pues ese milagro lo realizó, hace pocos días, en la estación Retiro un caballerito de tres años escasos de edad. Iba el futuro ciudadano del brazo de la

*De la Revista Mensual B. A. P., Buenos Aires, junio de 1946.*

<sup>1</sup> *Moving stairway or escalator.*

mamá. . . . De pronto se “empacó.” No quería seguir caminando.—¿Pero, qué quieres? preguntó la madre.

—Quiero, mamita, que me lleves de nuevo a esa escalera en que se sube y no se sube.<sup>1</sup>

Así definía el chico a la escalera rodante.

¿Por qué no inventarán los gobernantes del mundo una escala rodante de precios, de modo que éstos suban sin subir, vale decir, insensiblemente?

## También la ciudad tiene sus pájaros . . .

CARLOS CARLINO

Oh, tierra mía, abandonado verde,  
siempre estarás en mi raíz, temblando,  
con limpio sol y pájaros alegres,

con tu fresco tocado de colores  
y esas abejas de la voz que vienen  
y nadie puede adivinar de dónde . . . .

Ahora es abril. La noche anda en la calle  
con su correspondencia de amoríos  
repartiendo su sombra en los zaguanes;

una muchacha de cabellos rubios  
funde su juventud, en una esquina,  
con el último tono del crepúsculo;

gime un tranvía, se desliza un auto  
y entre bocinas y campanas llega  
el lejano pregón que ofrece un diario.

Miro la noche y la ciudad y pienso  
—oh, tierra mía, abandonado verde—  
que también la ciudad tiene sus pájaros,

un río, allí no más, vivo de peces,  
una luna, una flor y mi ventana  
abierta al horizonte, exactamente.

*Del Boletín de Educación, Provincia de Santa Fe, Republica Argentina, noviembre de 1945.*



# Registration of Treaties in the Pan American Union

MANUEL S. CANYES

*Chief, Juridical Division of the Pan American Union*

COMPLYING with the plan approved in Resolution XXIX of the Eighth International Conference of American States, held at Lima in 1938, for the registration of treaties in the Pan American Union, several American Governments registered from December 1939 to June 1946 a total of 367 treaties, conventions and agreements. The purpose of registration, as indicated in said plan, is "to keep the Governments of the Americas regularly and fully informed on the treaties which they may sign between themselves or with other States, and which may take effect in the future."

The method followed in each case is for the respective Government to transmit to the Pan American Union a certified copy of the treaty, convention, or agreement intended for registration, together with 25 additional uncertified copies. The Pan American Union thereupon issues a certificate of registration and transmits it to the Government registering the document, certifies the other copies and forwards one to each of the other members of the Union.

The benefits that could be derived from this procedure have not been fully realized because only a very limited number of Governments are following it at present. The universal adoption of this system would make it possible for each Government to receive from the Pan American Union certified copies of all the instruments signed by the other Governments and would make the service rendered by the Pan American Union far greater than at present.

In compliance with Article V of the plan mentioned above, the BULLETIN of the Pan American Union has published regularly a list of the treaties registered. The first list, with the text of the plan, appeared in November 1941, the second in September 1942, the third in September and October 1943, the fourth in December 1944, and the fifth in November 1945.

The sixth list, comprising the 25 agreements registered with the Pan American Union from June 30, 1945 to June 30, 1946, is appended.

TREATIES, CONVENTIONS, AND AGREEMENTS  
*Registered With the Pan American Union From June 30, 1945 to June 30, 1946 in Accordance With the Plan Approved by the  
 Eighth International Conference of American States*

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

BOLIVIA—UNITED STATES

Title	Signature	Effective date	Registered	Reg. No.
Agreement regarding a health and sanitation program.	Notes of Aug. 1 and 8, 1944.....	Aug. 8, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	337 U. S. A.

COLOMBIA—UNITED STATES

Agreement regarding the procurement of strategic materials.	Notes of Mar. 29, 1943.....	Mar. 29, 1943.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	334 U. S. A.
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GUATEMALA—UNITED STATES

Agreement regarding cooperative education...	Notes of Aug. 10 and Sept. 16, 1944..	Sept. 16, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	342 U. S. A.
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HAITI—UNITED STATES

Supplementary agreement regarding Haitian finances.	Nov. 9, 1944.....	Nov. 9, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	332 U. S. A.
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HONDURAS—UNITED STATES

Agreement regarding cooperative education...	Notes of Mar. 29 and April 12, 1944..	April 12, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	339 U. S. A.
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MEXICO—UNITED STATES

Fisheries mission agreement, and extension; with amendment of agreement.	Agreement: Communications of April 17, May 22, July 22 and 27, and Oct. 24, 1942. Extension: Notes of Sept. 7 and Oct. 18, 1944.	Agreement: Oct. 24, 1942. Extension: Oct. 18, 1944.	Feb. 4, 1946....	335 U. S. A.
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## PANAMA—UNITED STATES

Agreement supplementing the convention of March 2, 1936 regarding the Trans-Isthmian Highway.	Notes of Aug. 31 and Sept. 6, 1940...	Sept. 6, 1940.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	340 U. S. A.
Agreement regarding the Inter-American Highway between Chorrera and Rio Hato.	Notes of Mar. 23, 1940.....	Mar. 23, 1940.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	341 U. S. A.

## PARAGUAY—UNITED STATES

Agreement regarding a health and sanitation program.	Notes of May 18 and 22, 1942.....	May 22, 1942.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	328 U. S. A.
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## PERU—UNITED STATES

Agreement extending with modifications the agreement of May 19 and 20, 1943 relating to Inter-American Cooperative Food Production Service.	Notes of Aug. 18 and Oct. 10, 1944..	May 19, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	325 U. S. A.
Agreement regarding anthropological research and investigation.	Notes of Mar. 9 and Aug. 4, 1944....	Aug. 4, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	330 U. S. A.
Agreement regarding a health and sanitation program.	Notes of May 9 and 11, 1942.....	May 11, 1942.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	333 U. S. A.

## VENEZUELA—UNITED STATES

Rubber production agreement; exchange of notes extending agreement; and exchange of notes amending agreement.	Agreement: Notes of Oct. 13, 1942. Notes extending agreement: Oct. 11, 1943 and Oct. 13, 1944. Notes amending agreement: Sept. 27, 1944.	Agreement: Oct. 13, 1942. Extensions: Oct. 13, 1943 and Oct. 13, 1944. Amendment: Sept. 27, 1944.	Feb. 4, 1946....	338 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—BULGARIA

Armistice agreement between the U. S. A., the U. S. S. R., and the United Kingdom on the one hand, and Bulgaria on the other hand, with a Protocol, and related papers.	Agreement: Oct. 28, 1944 ..... Protocol: Oct. 28, 1944 ..... Related papers: Oct. 27, 1944 .....	Oct. 28, 1944.....	Feb. 4, 1946....	329 U. S. A.
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BILATERAL AGREEMENTS  
UNITED STATES—CANADA

Title	Signature	Effective date	Registered	Reg. No.
Air Transport Services agreement . . . . .	Notes of February 17, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 17, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	344 U. S. A.
Agreement amending the agreement of January 27, 1943 regarding post-war disposition of defense installations and facilities.	Notes of Nov. 22 and Dec. 20, 1944 . . . . .	Dec. 20, 1944 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	336 U. S. A.

UNITED STATES—FRANCE

Mutual aid agreements: 1) Relating to principles applying to mutual aid in the prosecution of the war against aggression, and relating to supplies and services; and 2) Relating to principles applying to the provision of aid to the armed forces of the United States, and accompanying memorandum and exchange of letters.	Feb. 28, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 28, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	343 U. S. A.
	Notes of Feb. 28, 1945 . . . . .	From June 6, 1944 . . . . .	.....	

UNITED STATES—ICELAND

Agreement relating to aid for defense of Iceland, and related note.	Nov. 21, 1941 . . . . .	Nov. 21, 1941 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	322 U. S. A.
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UNITED STATES—IRELAND

Air transport services agreement . . . . .	Notes of Feb. 3, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 15, 1945 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	345 U. S. A.
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UNITED STATES—LEBANON

Agreement regarding the rights of American nationals.	Notes of Sept. 7 and 8, 1944 . . . . .	Sept. 8, 1944 . . . . .	Feb. 4, 1946 . . . .	327 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—LIBERIA

Agreement regarding the construction of a port and port works, and an exchange of notes.	Dec. 31, 1943. .... Notes: Feb. 23 and 29, 1944. ....	Dec. 31, 1943. .... Feb. 29, 1944. ....	Feb. 4, 1946. ....	321 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—PALESTINE

Parcel post agreement, with detailed regulations.	May 10, 1943 and Sept. 6, 1944. Ratified by the President Sept. 25, 1944.	Sept. 25, 1944. ....	Feb. 4, 1946. ....	331 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—SPAIN

Air Transport Services agreement and related notes.	Notes of Dec. 2, 1944. ....	Dec. 2, 1944. ....	Feb. 4, 1946. ....	324 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—SWEDEN

Air Transport Services agreement. ....	Notes of Dec. 16, 1944. ....	Jan. 1, 1945. ....	Feb. 4, 1946. ....	323 U. S. A.
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## UNITED STATES—SYRIA

Agreement regarding the rights of American nationals.	Notes of Sept. 7 and 8, 1944. ....	Sept. 8, 1944. ....	Feb. 4, 1946. ....	326 U. S. A.
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# Postwar Measures in the American Republics—IX

*Compiled by the Editorial Division of the Pan American Union*

## *Economic developments*

*Costa Rica* acted on May 3, 1946 to hasten government action in behalf of the sugar industry by anticipating the five-year yield of a tax imposed November 8, 1945, at the rate of one colon per quintal (100 pounds) of sugar produced. Government notes to the amount of 1,500,000 colones bearing interest at 6 percent will be issued and paid off by the tax. Proceeds must be apportioned among the cantons in proportion to the expected local yield of the sugar tax, and must be spent entirely on the building and repair of roads giving access to sugar mills. (*La Gaceta*, May 7, 1946; November 14, 1945.)

A law of June 13, 1946, brought relief to the increasingly active Guatemalan building industry, which had been suffering from the limitations of the country's one cement factory; free entry is granted to imports of cement until December 31, 1946. (*Diario de Centro América*, June 21, 1946.)

## *Export, import, rent, funds, and other controls*

*Venezuela* has lifted retail sales controls from domestic and imported rubber tires. Maximum prices must still be posted in plain sight, and the National Supply Commission continues to control the kinds of tires manufactured in Venezuela, and to require that manufactures and importations of tires be promptly reported. (*Gaceta Oficial*, May 24, 1946.) Automob-

biles, trucks, and bodies may be sold in Venezuela without individual authorizations, but are subject to ceiling prices. (*Gaceta Oficial*, May 24, 1946.)

*Chile*, however, has been suffering from scarcity of tires and tubes. On February 28 the General Subsistence and Price Commissariat resumed its control of their distribution, requiring makers and dealers to report all stocks on hand and all transfers within 24 hours of shipment or receipt. On the same date the Commissariat established an order of priority among purposes for which tires and tubes may be sold, and required that every purchaser present a certificate of purpose from the local price commissariat. (*Diario Oficial*, March 5, 1946.)

Gasoline, kerosene, and Diesel and fuel oil may be freely bought and sold in Chile. A series of measures in the closing weeks of 1945 abolished gasoline rationing, and with it the wartime restrictions on night driving and on consumption of gasoline by various kinds of vehicles. (*Diario Oficial*, November 24, December 10, 11, 12, 14, 1945; February 26, 1946.) On December 21, 1945, the Petroleum Supply Committee itself was abolished. (*Diario Oficial*, January 23, 1946.)

Resolution No. 733 of the Ministry of Commerce, dated July 4, 1946, released gasoline and similar products from the quota system that had prevailed in *Cuba* since 1942. Producers, importers and distributors are obliged, however, to send

regular reports to the Supply Bureau of the Ministry of Commerce. Ceiling prices are fixed for refiners and importers and for retailers. (*Gaceta Oficial*, edición extraordinaria, July 5, 1946, p. 1.)

In order to combat the shortage of tires in *Argentina*, which is seriously affecting transportation facilities in that country and the national economy in general, the Department of Industry and Commerce was authorized by Decree No. 12,323 of April 30, 1946, to purchase 10,000 tires in Brazil and to supervise their distribution. A sum of 2,500,000 pesos (a peso equals about \$0.268 U. S. cy.) is to be made available to the Department for this purpose. (*Boletín Oficial*, May 9, 1946.)

Another decree pertaining to the supply of tires in *Argentina* was No. 12,590 of May 3, 1946, which lifted all rationing and price control measures on automobile tires manufactured from synthetic rubber. Included in this decree was a provision that factories manufacturing tires must set aside up to 15 percent of their monthly production of automobile tires to satisfy the needs of the various Government agencies. They must also manufacture every 4 months a quantity of large tires for buses and trucks equal to the number of such tires manufactured during the first 4 months of 1946. (*Boletín Oficial*, May 9, 1946.)

By Executive Decree of May 16, 1946, every dealer or manufacturer in *Uruguay* having iron in his possession, in a warehouse, or in the customhouse was required to report it in detail, under penalty of the law. (*Diario Oficial*, May 22, 1946.)

In the *Dominican Republic*, the withdrawal from customs, the distribution, and the price of agricultural machinery and parts, steel rods, clamps, nails, wire for nails, and barbed wire have been placed under government control. (*Gaceta Oficial*, April 10 and 24, 1946.)

*Costa Rica* has acted to safeguard some pressing needs of the national economy by establishing priorities for the expenditure of foreign exchange derived from exports. Precedence will be given to the importing of such commodities as flour, condensed milk, drugs, gasoline, newsprint, farm and road machinery, electric supplies, livestock, fertilizer, and seed. (*La Gaceta*, June 11, 1946.)

In view of the continued shortage of textiles in *Brazil*, due, among other things, to work stoppages, transportation difficulties, and absenteeism in the textile industry, the Textile Executive Commission (Comissão Executiva Textil) issued on June 3, 1946 an order prolonging for 90 days the ban on textile exports established by Resolution No. 23 of February 22, 1946. (*Diário Oficial*, June 7, 1946.)

*Chile* has repealed the wartime measures which forbade the exportation of tin, lead, tungsten, and scrap iron. (*Diario Oficial*, October 27, 1945.)

Sugar, however, has been returned to the control of the General Subsistence and Price Commissariat because of difficulties in distribution. The Commissariat must clear all movements of sugar and give permission for any shipment of more than 25 kilograms. (*Diario Oficial*, January 12, 1946.) And on bread the Commissariat has found it necessary to reinforce price ceilings by a measure against evasion; retail customers who find that stocks of the ordinary bread have been exhausted must be allowed to buy at the same price whatever fancy bread is on hand. (*Diario Oficial*, February 22, 1946.)

*Peru's* Ministry of Agriculture, in order to decrease imports of edible fat products and make possible the goal set by the Office of Food Supplies for cottonseed products in 1946-47, issued a Resolution on May 23, 1946, prohibiting the exportation of cottonseed or by-products until the

national supply of these products meets the demand. The decree also prohibits the formation of stocks of cottonseed, fixes a scale of maximum prices for its purchase, and establishes the percentages of the available cottonseed that may be used in the manufacture of the various by-products. (*El Peruano*, June 3, 1946.)

Also in Peru, where transportation troubles resulting from the war have been keeping appreciable supplies of wheat from the market, the Ministry of Agriculture was authorized by a resolution dated May 29, 1946, to acquire excess wheat directly from farmers throughout the country and insure its milling into flour. (*El Comercio*, June 4, 1946.)

In order to assure *Argentine* farmers of adequate supplies of linseed and seed wheat for the coming season, the Agricultural Production Regulating Board of that country was authorized by Decree No. 12,295 of May 3, 1946, to acquire additional supplies of seed wheat and to sell these as well as its present stocks of both seed wheat and linseed to farmers at reasonable prices, giving preference to those most seriously affected by the adverse conditions of the 1945-46 season. Credit is to be made available to farmers for the purchase of this seed by the Bank of the Argentine Nation. (*Boletín Oficial*, May 9, 1946.)

The Argentine Government, under the terms of Decree No. 14,696 dated May 23, 1946, has established a State monopoly on the purchase and exportation of oleaginous seeds, vegetable oils, and related products. This was done, according to the introduction to the decree, to prevent a setback in the progress made in the oleaginous seed industry during the war and to keep the pressure of external demands for this product from interfering with the filling of internal needs. The decree set basic prices for sunflower seeds, peanuts, and

rapeseed as well as linseed, for the oils extracted from these products and from cottonseed, and for other related items. The Central Bank is to fix export quotas for oleaginous seeds and will be responsible for keeping domestic and export prices adjusted to changing market conditions. (*Boletín Oficial*, June 3, 1946.)

Resolution No. 712 of the Ministry of Commerce permitted the exportation of 100,000 pounds of cassava and 100,000 pounds of *malanga* (an edible tuber) from Cuba between July 1 and July 31, 1946. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 3, 1946, p. 12,821.) Since the 30,000 cases containing 30 dozen fresh eggs each, the importation of which free of duty was permitted by Executive Decree 681 of March 29, 1946 (*Gaceta Oficial*, April 6, 1946), were insufficient to meet Cuba's needs, a new Executive Decree, No. 1468, increased the number of cases by 20,000. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 6, 1946, p. 13,100.)

*Uruguay* fixed the price for rice of the 1945-46 crop on the basis of 60 percent of whole grains, with a bonus for that above grade and a deduction for that under grade. The Bank of the Republic will buy rice from the producers and sell to processors and dealers. Every one concerned with the sale of rice must keep strict records, and farmers planting rice must report the area sown and the amount of seed used, under penalty of being deprived of fuel for agricultural use. (*El País*, Montevideo, June 2, 1946.)

On June 5, 1946, the Uruguayan Council of Ministers authorized the Subsistence Commission to fix the price of milk sold to the public and established penalties for any overcharge. The Commission was also to review the price paid to producers for the first half of the year and to set a price by July 15 for the balance of 1946. (*El País*, Montevideo, June 6, 1946.)



*Alien Property*

A Resolution of the Cuban Ministry of Finance signed on July 4, 1946, authorized certain payments from their credits in Cuba to nationals and residents of countries which, although not at war with Cuba, restricted transmission of funds to that country. These payments are conditioned on equal facilities being given to Cubans by the country of the person in question. (*Gaceta Oficial*, Primera Sección, July 10, 1946, Resolution 696,) p. 13317.

On July 23, 1946, President Truman issued an executive order authorizing the Secretary of State to supervise or control German and Japanese diplomatic and consular property located in the *United States* as he "deems necessary in the national interest." Formerly the Alien Property Custodian had authority to control such property. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, August 4, 1946.)

*Bilateral and multilateral agreements*

On June 28, 1946, an agreement was signed between *Brazil* and the *United States* providing for the disposal of about \$2,000,000 worth of undelivered Lend-Lease supplies which were in inventory or procurement in the *United States* prior to September 2, 1945. Brazil will pay for these supplies in accordance with an agreement between the two countries on defense aid dated March 3, 1942. The supplies include industrial equipment valued at \$1,014,000, air forces equipment valued at \$137,000, and ordnance equipment valued at \$898,000. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, July 28, 1946.)

A contract was signed on July 5, 1946 between the *United States* and *Brazil* whereby Brazil will purchase the remainder of the *United States* surplus property located on or in the vicinity of airbases in Brazil. The *United States* has extended credit to

Brazil for a sum not to exceed \$8,000,000 to enable Brazil to purchase this property. Brazil has agreed to repay it in five equal annual instalments, beginning July 1, 1947. Interest was fixed at the rate of 2 $\frac{3}{8}$  percent a year on the outstanding unpaid balance of the total purchase price. A major factor in the agreement was the desire to facilitate the withdrawal of small *United States* troop detachments still at air bases in Brazil. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, July 28, 1946.)

By joint resolution of Congress, passed July 17 by the Senate and June 3, by the House of Representatives, the *United States* was authorized to join the *United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization* (UNESCO). (*The Department of State Bulletin*, August 11, 1946.)

On August 1, 1946, President Truman signed the Fulbright bill authorizing the use of some of the proceeds from surplus-property sales abroad for exchange of students and other educational activities. Up to \$20,000,000 can be earmarked for educational exchanges with any country that buys surplus property and up to \$1,000,000 can be spent each year in each country where such an agreement is made. The bill is designed to utilize in many countries foreign credits for American surplus property in lieu of American dollars. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, August 11, 1946.)

The Governments of the *United States* and *Chile* have agreed to continue in force for another year, unless superseded by a more comprehensive agreement, the provisional commercial agreement concluded by the two Governments on July 30, 1945. The Chilean note was signed July 23, 1946, and the *United States* note July 30. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, August 11, 1946.)

*Proclaimed List.* On July 8, 1946, the *United States* Department of State, with the

concurrence of the Treasury, Justice, and Commerce Departments, announced the withdrawal, effective immediately, of the Proclaimed List of Certain Blocked Nationals, generally known during the war as the "American Black List."

The Proclaimed List came into existence on July 17, 1941, and from that time on it and the British Statutory List and Canadian List of Specified Persons were virtually identical. Other governments, including various American Republics, recognized the list and maintained their own in close agreement with it.

The original Proclaimed List consisted of 1,834 names, all of which were Western Hemisphere names. After Pearl Harbor Japanese and other Eastern Hemisphere

names were added until the List reached its peak of 15,446 names on July 28, 1944. The American Republics early recognized the dangers of Axis penetration and at the Rio de Janeiro Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in 1942 adopted measures to eliminate Axis economic penetration in the Western Hemisphere. As local controls throughout the Hemisphere became effective, deletions were made in the List, and finally when it was withdrawn the List contained 5,887 names.

The withdrawal represents an important step in the United States policy of freeing trade from wartime controls as soon as such action becomes possible. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, July 21, 1946.)

## Women of the Americas

### Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

#### *Women from Chile, Peru, and Brazil study United States labor methods*

CERTIFICATES of accomplishment were presented by Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwollenbach on July 11 to four trainees of the Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor—Srta. María Méndez of Chile, Srta. Isabel Alayza of Peru, Srta. Josephina Albano of Brazil, and Sra. Mercedes Moura d Carmona of Puerto Rico. These four young women had completed a four-month course in the administration and enforcement of labor laws affecting women and children in the United States. Sra. de Carmona was sent to the United States for the course at the expense of the insular government, while the other three were awarded train-

ing grants under the Women's Bureau program of cooperation with the other American Republics carried out as part of the over-all program of the Inter-departmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation.

After an orientation course in the United States Department of Labor, the trainees were given an opportunity for observation and practice through the cooperation of the State Departments of Labor of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Virginia. In the Divisions of Women and Children of these States, the trainees studied existing legislation and methods of enforcing it. They made regular inspection trips and were particularly impressed with the intelligence and dignity of the inspectors they accompanied and the

methods used by the inspectors to educate plant managers about the labor law and to secure their cooperation. Ideas which the trainees hope to put to fruitful use in their own Divisions at home were also obtained from the organizational set-up of the Divisions of Women and Children they studied, and from the methods of training inspectors of making reports, and of keeping records.

Srta. Alayza, who is responsible for the development of handicraft industries for women in Peru, spent a month in the New England states and a month in Tennessee and North Carolina visiting handicraft projects. She studied their techniques of instructing beginners in design, their ways of fostering creative production, and methods for cooperative marketing of handicraft products.

Srta. Méndez was especially interested in two special problems. The first was the relation between state and Federal agencies, which she studied in both Washington and the states mentioned. In the second place, since a large number of minors are employed in glass factories in Chile, she wanted to see working conditions in such factories here. She visited several such factories with an inspector of the Ohio Industrial Commission. She also attended the Hudson Shore Labor School Institute for leaders in workers' education.

The trainees also observed the work of educational and community institutions such as vocational schools, maternal and child health clinics, and settlement houses, and learned about the educational work of trade unions, especially for women members. They were invited to attend the meetings of various women's organizations—the League of Women Voters, YWCA, National Council of Catholic Women, Zonta and other women's service clubs—not only so that they could learn

about the program and work of these organizations but also so that the members of such groups could learn about women of the trainees' countries. The trainees spoke before a number of such groups, and likewise gave radio and newspaper interviews.

While in the field the trainees made full reports at regular intervals to the Women's Bureau. During the last two weeks of the training course, at a series of seminar sessions in Washington, they gave summary reports on various phases of their program of work, followed by analytic discussions carried on with the assistance of a member of the Women's Bureau staff. Each trainee also presented a plan of action which, on the basis of her experience in the United States, she will undertake when she returns to her own country.

The trainees were enthusiastic about their training course, about the friendliness of everyone, and particularly about the splendid opportunities for learning made possible for them by the State Departments of Labor. The invitations to homes of newly acquired friends were deeply enjoyed and appreciated, for the glimpses they afforded of home life in the United States.

In June, two other young women began a similar training course with the Women's Bureau: Sra. Elsa Ribeiro, who is Technical Assistant to the Director of the Department of Labor of Brazil and who was sent here by her government at its expense; and Srta. Digna Muñoz, who is Labor Inspector in the Department of Labor of Chile and was given leave of absence with pay by her government.

This is the second year the Women's Bureau has had a training course for women officials of labor departments in the other American Republics. The first four came from Chile, Brazil, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

# Pan American *News*

## *Message of the President of Chile*

SEÑOR Alfredo Duhalde Vásquez, Vice President of Chile, addressed the opening session of the national congress on May 21, 1946, to present the administration's annual message reporting on the year's progress. Señor Duhalde was himself the head of the government during a large part of the year covered by his report. When President Juan Antonio Ríos started out on his journey to the United States in October 1945, Señor Duhalde, who was then Minister of the Interior, was appointed Vice President to act for the President during his absence. When President Ríos came back from his visit and from the other international calls he had made on the way, his failing health was so greatly weakened that Señor Duhalde was soon called upon to return to the vice-presidency; and he continued in that office during the long illness which ended in the death of President Ríos on June 27, 1946, only a few weeks after this opening session of Congress.

Chilean foreign policy, said the Acting President in his report, called for solidarity with the activities and interests of the United Nations, a solidarity which took in the ties of Pan American loyalty but left no place for the formation of regional blocks. Señor Duhalde noted with pride Chile's election to one of the 18 posts on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and the honors paid to Chilean citizens in the election of Alejandro Álvarez as one of 15 judges of the International Court of Justice, in the appointment of Benjamín Cohen to a high post in the General Secretariat, and in the

election of Victor Moller as Executive Director of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development.

Chile's broadening world horizon was exemplified in the newly opened relations with Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Liberia. A diplomatic representative of Australia was expected in the near future. Instruments of Chile's ratification of the Bretton Woods agreements on the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development were deposited on December 30, 1945. The Executive took this opportunity to urge upon the Congress a prompt enactment of the bill calling for a Chilean contribution of \$3,000,000 U. S. toward the work of UNRRA. He was equally earnest in requesting early consideration for the immigration project framed by a commission under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a project which he believed would be greatly to the advantage of the national economy.

President Ríos by his visits strengthened Chile's ties with several of her neighbor republics. The year provided a further bond with Peru in the shape of a visit from the Peruvian Vice President, Señor José Gálvez. Chile's traditional good relations with Venezuela and Haiti were continued by means of diplomatic interchange with the regimes newly in power in those two countries.

To Chile's economy, which depends heavily upon copper and nitrates, the end of the war proved to be somewhat less disturbing than had been feared. Copper shipments to the United States were of course greatly curtailed. But the drop

did not produce a slump in price, thanks to the activities of the Office of Mining Credits, and to the cushioning effect of an extra tax which had prudently been imposed upon copper in the days of its peak demand. As for nitrates, sales and demand continued to be high.

For the Government Development Corporation <sup>1</sup> the year's great event was the discovery of oil in Magallanes, a discovery which came as the reward of years of costly exploration. The oil was found in the closing days of 1945. On February 8, 1946, the nation's equity was protected by a decree (No. 109) which reserved all refining and exploiting rights to the Government Development Corporation.

Another goal was reached in regard to the supply of cement. As a result of greatly increased output at the Juan Soldado plant, Chile was at last in a position to satisfy the nation's cement requirements from national production.

Machinery needs were still far from being met. The Government Development Corporation was able to arrange for some importations, and the Institute of Industrial Credit made possible an increase in the supply available, but the supply remained inadequate. In this connection Senor Duhalde commended to the attention of the Congress a pending bill providing free entry for imports of farm and industrial machinery.

Price and trade controls were still necessary because of the slow pace of the return to a peace-time economy. Little by little they are to be eliminated, as commerce resumes its normal flow. Sugar was one of the year's great problems; however, a large purchase of Cuban sugar made it possible to hold sugar prices in line for the time being, and in the meantime the government was working toward the creation

of a sugar stabilization fund as a future protection.

Government finance won some victories in the difficult struggle against mounting expenses, aggravated by such unavoidable burdens as relief for underpaid school teachers. The year's estimates included a deficit of 250,000,000 pesos,<sup>2</sup> which represented an improvement over the preceding year's figure of 383,000,000. By intensified effort the actual deficit was in fact held under the estimate at a figure of 210,000,000 pesos.

Sixty new corporations and a large increase in capitalization of existing firms gave evidence of a healthy state of business. Insurance companies were in good financial condition.

The Ministry of Public Works was able to report that bids had been accepted for the construction of the section of the Pan American Highway extending from Santiago to La Serena, and that hopes were bright for an early beginning on the new tunnel through the Andes to Argentina. Señor Duhalde asked the Congress to act promptly on an appropriation for construction of airports, lest Chile lose trade for lack of the landing facilities required by new types of planes. He also commended to their attention the economic problem presented by the railroads; they could not maintain the rates needed to meet the requirements of the national economy and at the same time cover their mounting expenses. One of the largest expenditures looming up was the costly project of electrifying the line between Santiago and Chillán, in order to take advantage of the new power plants in that region and at the same time release coal needed elsewhere.

Food production was being increased by execution of the Agrarian Plan of May

<sup>1</sup> See *Development of Chilean Production*, by Juan Mujica, BULLETIN, August 1946.

<sup>2</sup> The Chilean peso has four exchange values, varying from \$0.0302 to \$0.0516.

1945. Farm methods were being modernized, experiment stations were being built, and much improvement had already resulted from the return of Chilean experts who had studied in United States universities. Special attention was now being given to the provision of warehouses and drying plants for farm cooperatives in southern Chile, and to promotion of the production and consumption of milk. Through mechanization, wider irrigation, and improved seed, Chile might soon hope for the larger food crops so badly needed not only for export to hungry continents but also for better nutrition at home.

Forest conservation, the members of Congress were reminded, must play a part in the development of the nation's resources. The Ministry of Lands and Colonization was placing special emphasis upon the pressing need for a more vigorous forest policy. Señor Duhalde made an earnest plea for prompt passage of the Ministry's forest police bill, which would make it possible to check the burning off of lands, a clearing method which has cost Chile great losses in forest wealth. The Ministry was also accelerating its parceling and title validation activities, in order to stimulate wider farm ownership.

Health conditions were improved during the year by an intensive anti-malaria campaign near the northern border, and by the building of several sewage systems in central and southern Chile. A children's psychiatric service was being organized, with a mobile mental hygiene unit to travel through the country. Preliminary studies were made on a project to standardize drugs and medicines and bring down their prices. Social security benefits were extended to include the workers in various professions.

At the close of his address Señor Duhalde spoke briefly of the coalition cabinet which

was then in office. He explained his reasons for summoning that cabinet after the serious labor disturbances of last February, and voiced a hope that he would soon be able to strengthen it by the inclusion of elements from several other political parties.—C. C. C.

### *Peru plans for industrial progress*

One of the largest industrialization programs in all South America is that being carried on in the Chimbote Bay and Santa River Valley region by the Corporación Peruana del Santa, an agency of the Peruvian Government. This program, the completion of which is expected to cost Peru around 130,000,000 soles (about \$20,000,000), includes the installation of port works, living quarters, and sanitary facilities in the seacoast town of Chimbote, the reconstruction of a railway, the development of coal mines located 70 miles inland from Chimbote and iron ore deposits at Marcona, 250 miles south of Lima, the construction of a hydroelectric plant on the Santa river, and the extension of irrigation works. A large coal, iron, and steel plant, estimated to cost 81,250,000 soles (about \$12,500,000) is also being constructed at Chimbote. It is hoped that this plant will eventually eliminate all iron and steel imports into Peru. The Congress has passed a law which appropriates 13,000,000 soles (\$2,000,000) a year for these projects. Credits, so far unused, amounting to \$25,000,000 were made available to Peru by the Export-Import Bank of Washington, in 1942.

In the future it is proposed to carry out other projects similar to those now in progress in the Chimbote Bay region.

### *Cuban foreign trade in 1945*

Figures on the value of Cuban exports and imports for 1945 were made public by

the Statistical Office of the Ministry of the Treasury. The island republic ended the year with a favorable trade balance of \$170,990,000, a decrease of approximately 21.7 percent from the record trade balance of the previous year, \$218,410,000. The total value of trade in 1945, however, was some \$13,000,000 above the 1944 figure. The decrease in the trade balance, despite the greater volume of trade, came from the fact that exports decreased and imports increased considerably in comparison with 1944. Figures covering the six years 1940-45 are given in the following table:

*Cuban imports and exports*

[In thousands of dollars]

Year	Imports	Exports	Trade balance
1940.....	103,860	127,288	+23,428
1941.....	133,890	211,508	+77,618
1942.....	146,738	182,375	+35,637
1943.....	117,436	350,623	+233,187
1944.....	208,648	427,058	+218,410
1945.....	238,935	409,925	+170,990

A breakdown showing classifications of exports and imports and countries of destination and origin was not available for 1945 at the time of writing. However, it can be said that the United States both absorbed the greater percentage of Cuba's exports and supplied the larger share of its imports. During the first half of 1945 alone, Cuban exports to the United States were valued at \$232,090,000, the principal products being sugar and molasses (by far the most important in value), tobacco and tobacco products, alcohol, and diamonds.

The exports of diamonds from Cuba, which have represented a fair figure in recent years, especially in exports to the United States, have back of them an interesting story. Diamonds, whether in-

dustrial or precious stones, are not mined in Cuba. These exports, which have consisted of cut but unset stones, are really reexports. When the Netherlands and Belgium were occupied by Germany in 1940, many refugees from those two countries moved their diamond-cutting and polishing industry to Cuba. The business has prospered there and some thousand or more Cubans have been trained in the work. Export figures of future years will reflect, of course, whether the industry remains to any extent in Cuba or whether it is taken back to Holland and Belgium.

*Mexican foreign trade, 1945*

Although by comparison with 1944, the value of Mexico's total imports in 1945 declined and exports increased substantially, the nation met the year's end with an unfavorable visible trade balance of 270,738,000 pesos. This unfavorable balance is reported to have been more than covered by remittances sent home by the workers employed in the United States, by tourist expenditures, and by reinvestment of the profits of foreign capital (in expansion of industry, etc.); thus the balance of payments was favorable. The 1944 adverse trade balance of 847,352,000 pesos was largely accounted for by the technical inclusion in the total of the shipment from the United States to Mexico of gold bars valued at 546,533,653 pesos, representing foreign exchange accumulated since 1943. The rest of the visible unfavorable balance was wiped out, according to the Department of the National Economy, by the three factors mentioned above and by the inflow of new capital.

The following tables, compiled from statistics published by the General Statistical Office of the Department of National

Economy of Mexico, show the country's 1944 and 1945 trade figures:

*Mexican exports*

[In thousands of pesos]

Classification	1944	1945
Animal products . . . . .	75, 227	114, 519
Vegetable products . . . . .	373, 198	336, 684
Mineral products . . . . .	67, 537	62, 828
Fuels and derivatives . . . . .	33, 253	40, 849
Textiles, yarns, felts, and their manufactures . . . . .	121, 574	253, 179
Foodstuffs, beverages, tobacco, and chemical products . . . . .	93, 181	96, 887
Miscellaneous industrial products . . . . .	77, 339	158, 816
Common metals and their manufactures . . . . .	175, 375	195, 525
Precious metals (bars) . . . . .	23, 814	34, 496
Coin . . . . .	5, 673	34, 541
Other currency and securities . . . . .	1, 675	4, 342
Total . . . . .	1, 047, 846	1, 332, 666

*Mexican imports*

(In thousands of pesos)

Classification	1944	1945
Animals and animal products . . . . .	157, 732	157, 274
Vegetable products . . . . .	308, 008	273, 028
Mineral products . . . . .	238, 075	277, 709
Thread and textiles . . . . .	38, 348	41, 969
Textile manufactures . . . . .	27, 115	33, 315
Chemicals . . . . .	135, 092	150, 359
Miscellaneous industrial products . . . . .	112, 681	131, 442
Industrial machinery and equipment . . . . .	209, 118	340, 466
Scientific and other apparatus and vehicles . . . . .	122, 125	197, 510
Precious metals (bars) . . . . .	546, 535	5
Coin . . . . .		44
Other currency and securities . . . . .	369	283
Total . . . . .	1, 895, 198	1, 603, 404

An inspection of the figures for the two years reveals some interesting points. There was a decrease in vegetable products, the most important classification, which includes cereals, spices, fruits, vege-

tables, essential oils, chicle, fibers, vegetable fertilizer, cattle feed, and fine woods, and in mineral products. It will be noted that exports of thread and textiles more than doubled in value in 1945, the increase over the previous year having been 108.2 percent. The bulk of these exports consisted of cotton cloth and woolen sarapes, valued at 64,284,000 pesos in 1944 and 178,082,000 pesos in 1945. The fact that Mexico was able to achieve such a large increase in this group of exports in one year is indicative of the extent to which the nation's textile industry is expanding. Industrial expansion, however, is obviously not confined to textiles alone, for the increase in the export value of miscellaneous industrial products was 105.3 percent, almost on a par with the increase in textile exports. (In fact, more than 500 new industrial enterprises were started in 1945.) These industrial products include shoes, straw hats, cigars and cigarettes, glass containers, books, beer, wooden boxes, and furniture.

Aside from precious metal in bars (gold and silver), coin, other currency, and securities, the single line of imports that showed a decrease in value in 1945 as compared with 1944 was vegetable products; and among these, the major part of the decrease was in corn and wheat. The 1945 import value of the former was only 31.5 percent of the 1944 figure, while the import value of wheat decreased by 19.6 percent.

Across the Rio Grande to the United States went 83.8 percent of Mexico's total exports in 1945, valued at 1,116,589,000 pesos. In turn, United States goods valued at 1,319,528,000 pesos found their way to Mexico, or 82.3 percent of the country's total imports for the year. The largest single item on the list of imports from the United States was iron and steel manufactures; others of importance were trac-



tors, pharmaceutical products, and generators and electric motors.

Canada supplied goods to Mexico in 1945 valued at 35,709,000 pesos and Great Britain furnished products valued at 23,666,000 pesos.

### *Foreign trade, Uruguay, 1945*

The end of World War II had a clearly defined effect on Uruguay's imports in 1945, their value having increased 58.4 percent over 1944 and 79.8 percent with respect to 1943. The accumulated demands for durable and consumer goods were of course a preponderant factor in this remarkable increase.

While Uruguay's favorable trade balance of \$7,253,000 U. S. cy. for 1945 was considerably less than the balance for 1944, the country's total foreign trade increased by nearly \$68,000,000 over the trade for 1944. Comparative figures for the 3 years are as follows:

[In thousands of dollars]

	1943	1944	1945
Total trade.....	163, 827	170, 005	236, 772
Exports.....	100, 020	97, 559	122, 013
Imports.....	63, 807	72, 446	114, 759
Trade balance...	+ 36, 213	+ 25, 113	+ 7, 254

The chief Uruguayan export in 1945 was wool, followed by meats and then by leather and hides. The export value of the last-named remained at practically the same level for both 1944 and 1945, but the value of wool exports for 1945 increased 39.7 percent and that of meat exports 4.8 percent over the 1944 figures. The percentage increase in the export value of live animals between 1944 and 1945 was 186.4 percent. The value of exports by groups of products for 1944 and 1945 is given in the following table:

### *Uruguayan exports*

[In thousands of dollars]

	1944	1945
Meat and meat products.....	29,721	31,160
Wool.....	40,919	57,196
Leather and hides.....	11,133	11,888
Agricultural products.....	5,972	7,340
Thread, textiles, and their products.....	5,056	8,583
Extractive industries.....	2,361	1,185
Miscellaneous industries.....	1,725	2,955
Live animals.....	487	1,395
Chemicals and pharmaceuticals.....	107	240
Unspecified merchandise.....	78	70
Total.....	97,559	122,012

The United States market absorbed Uruguay's 1945 exports to the value of \$55,757,000, or 45.7 percent of the total. England ranked second, having acquired 23.7 percent of total Uruguayan exports, valued at \$28,949,000. Sweden and Switzerland were next, with approximately \$5,000,000 and \$3,000,000, respectively. The Brazilian market provided an outlet for Uruguayan products in the sum of \$2,911,000.

Comparative import values for 1944-45 are shown below:

### *Uruguayan imports*

(In thousands of dollars)

Classification	1944		1945	
	Amount	Percent of total	Amount	Percent of total
Raw materials.....	22,199	30.6	29,975	26.1
Fuel and lubricants.....	14,721	20.3	12,034	10.5
Foodstuffs.....	9,781	13.5	10,752	9.4
General merchandise.....	7,612	10.5	9,591	8.3
Construction materials.....	7,061	9.8	9,955	8.7
Machinery and accessories.....	1,741	2.4	3,294	2.9
Motor vehicles.....	843	1.2	2,815	2.4
Various other merchandise.....	8,488	11.7	36,343	31.7
Total.....	72,446	100.0	114,759	100.0

Here again the United States ranked first, having supplied 41.5 percent of Uruguay's 1945 imports, valued at \$47,-607,000. Brazil was second in importance as a supply source for Uruguayan imports; it furnished goods valued at \$19,-327,000, or 16.8 percent of the total. This figure, however, was somewhat less than in the preceding year, when Brazilian goods constituted 22.2 percent of total Uruguayan imports. Argentina was Uruguay's third important source of imports, products of that nation having accounted for 10.3 percent of the total, or \$11,777,-000. Venezuela supplied 5.3 percent of the total and Great Britain 4.0 percent.

### *Argentina becoming a creditor nation*

Since July 1946 when the Argentine Government announced its determination to get rid of the country's external debt, the investment world has been watching the wholesale debt retirement program being carried on by that nation. Within the next few months, it is expected that about \$130,222,100 of dollar bonds bearing the direct obligation or guarantee of the national government will be retired, as well as obligations payable in 56,900,000 Swiss francs. The first redemption call was set for August 15 and covered \$60,423,000 of outstanding bonds of the national 4 percent issue of February 1972. As a result of its large sterling holdings during the war, the country was able to reduce its sterling debt to an amount unofficially estimated at 10,100,000 pounds. Thus Argentina is changing from a debtor to a creditor nation. Credits issued by Argentina's branch banking system are finding their way to industrial centers among the country's neighbor nations, and new Argentine branch banks are being established in various parts of Latin America.

### *The Brazilian textile industry*

A few months ago a spokesman for the Brazilian textile industry made a report before the Economic and Social Committee of the Constituent Assembly, which is in process of drawing up a new constitution for Brazil. The following data are extracted from his report.

The textile industry is the oldest and most widespread manufacturing industry in Brazil. The raw material is easily obtainable, for cotton is native to the country and the cultivation of commercial varieties has been greatly increased in the last 15 years.

European technical experts, foremen, and operatives were brought to Brazil many years ago to aid in setting up textile mills. At first the mills did only weaving, but later spinning and finishing were added, generally all in the same plant. In recent years, however, there has been a tendency to make yarns, piece goods, and knit goods in separate mills. Spinning mills have had to be operated on a double shift. Most textile equipment came from England.

The total number of cotton textile mills, according to the latest statistics (1944), is 411, concentrated chiefly in five states (see table) and the Federal District, but found also in 12 other states. The number of operatives is over 254,000, about 25 percent of all factory workers. There are reported to be 97,000 looms and 3,000,000 spindles. The largest average number of operatives per factory, 2,000, is found in Rio de Janeiro. It is estimated that about 150,000 workers are occupied in other branches of the textile industry, using silk, rayon, wool, jute, and other fibers.

Brazil's importance as a textile producer was recognized in 1944 by an invitation to join the Combined Production and Resources Board, the other members of which

*Brazilian cotton mills in 1944*

States	No. of mills	No. of operatives	No. of looms	No. of spindles	Capital (millions of cruzeiros)	Reserves (millions of cruzeiros)	Bonds (millions of cruzeiros)
São Paulo.....	215	96, 100	31, 085	1, 102, 228	1, 267	1, 104	71
Minas Gerais.....	60	27, 330	12, 122	347, 107	259	252	1, 490
Rio de Janeiro.....	24	18, 344	8, 750	289, 163	208	248	35
Santa Catarina.....	21	6, 470	1, 423	41, 480	76	50	1
Federal District....	15	30, 598	14, 004	560, 176	274	401	40
Pernambuco.....	14	29, 795	11, 265	202, 958	172	215	22
Others.....	62	45, 708	13, 161	527, 682	222	193	473

were the United States, Great Britain, and Canada. Brazil was asked to furnish 150,000,000 yards of cotton goods for UNRRA and French North Africa. To help in carrying out this commitment, a Textile Executive Committee was organized in Brazil. This committee took a census of equipment and standardized production in accordance with prevailing Brazilian output. Since the goods for UNRRA were not to show a profit, an effort was made to allot quotas equitably among the various mills.

It proved to be impossible to furnish the entire amount for various reasons, among which was the lack of textile workers for extra shifts. Production was, however, expanded to such an extent that textiles became the second most important export. Shipments for the years 1943-45 are shown in the accompanying table:

*Brazilian textile exports, 1943-45*

(Value in thousands of cruzeiros)

	Cotton	Wool	Silk	Rayon
1943 ...	1,095,681	25,019	4,899	14,291
1944 ...	1,040,435	9,053	5,909	28,062
1945 ...	1,377,601	36,364	28,062	34,504

At present annual cotton textile production is calculated at about 1,200,000,000 meters (1 meter equals 39.37 inches), while national consumption varies be-

tween 900,000,000 and 1,000,000,000 meters.

Exports of cotton goods were so much in demand early this year that the Textile Executive Committee issued a resolution on February 22 suspending for 90 days exports of such goods or their manufactures, in order to protect the home market. (This was later extended for another 90 days.) This did not, however, apply to textiles for UNRRA, although these goods are included in the 20 percent export quota (based on the 1945 production of each factory) that will be in effect after the expiration of the export suspension. Exports of cotton yarns, which had a value of about 92,000,000 cruzeiros in 1945 and were even higher the year before, were suspended for 60 days in December 1945 by order of the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization. Rayon exports were suspended the same month until further notice.

Since June 1943 there has been in effect a textile agreement, signed by the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization and the chief organizations in the textile industry. It requires each manufacturer to deliver to the Brazilian trade 10 percent of his output in low-priced goods, with the prices marked on the selvage; generally these are marketed at 50 percent of cost. Goods for UNRRA, sold at cost, take another 10 percent of production. Sixty percent of production is composed of higher-priced

goods for sale in Brazil which usually net an average profit of 25 percent; the remaining 20 percent is exported at a profit of 30 percent.

During the war the cotton mills in Brazil strained every nerve to keep up high production, both for interior consumption and for the foreign market. The equipment is in need of extensive replacements; orders have been given for about \$80,000,-000 worth, but even more is necessary.

### *Further changes in the economic and financial structure of Argentina*

During the two weeks immediately preceding the inauguration of Argentina's new President on June 4, a number of decrees were promulgated which continued the general reorganization of the country's economic and financial structure and brought about a greatly increased degree of government control. (For a summary of previous legislation see BULLETIN, September 1946, p. 526.)

Decree-law No. 14,957 of May 24 amended the 1935 Central Bank law to bring it into accord with the recent nationalization of the Bank. A new mission for the Bank was added to those listed in the old law—that of promoting to the extent of its legal powers an adequate economic policy aimed at maintaining a high level of activity so as to produce the maximum employment of the country's human and material resources and the orderly expansion of its economy. The decree also contains clauses implementing the Bank's greatly increased control over the volume and direction of credit, and giving it a more extensive field of action through the intermedium of the commercial banks. For purposes of better coordination and efficiency the following institutions are made part of the Central Bank system: the Bank of the

Argentine Nation, the Argentine Industrial Credit Bank, the National Mortgage Bank, the Credit, Security, and Savings Institute for State and Private Employees, and the newly created Argentine Institute for Trade Promotion.

The functions of the first three of these institutions within the general plan of organized economic action were outlined in Decrees 14,959-61, also dated May 24. The Bank of the Argentine Nation is to be responsible for the expansion of farm production and of commerce. It will apply the colonization law and administer the State-owned grain elevators and granaries. The Industrial Credit Bank will attend to the credit needs of industry, giving preference to industries making indispensable articles, to those which extract, use, or process national products, and to those playing a part in national defense or in the promotion of regional economic development. The National Mortgage Bank has the function of granting short-, medium-, or long-term credit secured by mortgage guarantee. The funds for the financing of such operations will be provided by the Central Bank. The Mortgage Bank will also encourage and finance private dwelling-house construction.

Another decree of May 24, No. 14,962, modified the general Banking Law of 1935, adjusting it to the new scheme by which all bank deposits of the public have been placed under the protection of the State. Rulings contained in the old law designed to ensure the proper investment of deposits have been eliminated since all banks now act as agents of the Central Bank and may not make use of deposits without authorization from the latter. On the other hand, a number of clauses have been incorporated governing the new relationship between the Central Bank and other banking concerns. In order to increase the efficiency of the

Central Bank in regulating credit, it has been empowered to exercise control over concerns other than banks which receive funds from the public and invest them in loans. The new law also authorizes the Central Bank to forbid foreign banks operating in Argentina to send out of the country the capital assigned to them by their head offices.

Decree-law No. 15,345, issued on May 29, created the Argentine Mixed Reinsurance Institute with a monopoly on all reinsurance business, and placed extensive limitations on the activities of foreign insurance companies in Argentina. The 10,000,000-peso capital of the Institute will be made up of 2,000,000 pesos contributed by the State, and 8,000,000 pesos contributed by Argentine insurance companies in proportion to their capital and legal reserves. The decree prohibits the insurance abroad of any persons, property, or insurable interest within the national jurisdiction and requires that all insurance of companies having Government concessions or privileges be placed with Argentine enterprises. Insurance of all classes of goods entering the country must be covered by Argentine insurance companies when the transport risk is carried by the receiver, and the insurance of all goods leaving the country must be similarly covered when transport risk is for account of the sender.

Another important step in the reorganization of Argentina's economy was the liquidation of the privately-operated Argentine Trade Promotion Corporation, which was formed in 1941 for the chief purpose of increasing Argentine-United States trade (Decree-law No. 15,344), and its replacement by a government-controlled organization called the Institute for Foreign Trade Promotion (Decree-law No. 15,350).

The dissolution of the following produce control boards was ordered by Decree-law

No. 15,352: the National Agrarian Council, the National Grain and Elevators Commission, the Agricultural Production Regulating Board, the National Meat Board, the National Cotton Board, the National Sugar Commission, the Regulatory Commission for the Production and Marketing of *Yerba Mate*, and the National Dairy Industry Commission. The functions of these boards are to be distributed by the Central Bank among the Bank of the Nation, the Industrial Credit Bank, the National Mortgage Bank, and the Argentine Institute for Trade Promotion. The financial functions of the former Wine Regulating Board will be taken over by the Bank of the Nation.

Furthermore, Decree-law No. 15,353 "officialized" the Securities Commission and established government control over all the operations of stock exchanges. No stock exchanges or markets in Argentina may now authorize the quotation of new issues of public or private securities without first obtaining the approval of the Securities Commission. The Central Bank is to supervise all stock exchanges and securities markets throughout the country.

### *Guatemala and El Salvador relax frontier restrictions*

Guatemala and El Salvador have made travel between the two countries much simpler by agreeing that a citizen of either nation may enter the other without a passport, if he is provided with his local identification papers and a travel card. The travel cards can be obtained from Department authorities; they cost only 1 Guatemalan quetzal or 2½ Salvadorean colones (1 dollar). They are good for 1 year from date of entry, and they include entry of a vehicle and recognition of the traveler's driving license.

This compact was signed at San Salvador

on May 17, 1946, just 1 year after the frontier meeting at which the President of Guatemala and the President of El Salvador pledged their countries to greater efforts in the direction of Central American unity. The agreement is good for 6 months, and is automatically renewed at the end of each 6-month period unless one of the signatory nations has denounced it 2 months before the expiration date. It was ratified by the Guatemalan Government on May 28, 1946, and by that of El Salvador on June 12, 1946.

### *Chile's citrus crops*

War prices caused Chilean growers to expand their plantings of citrus fruits, especially lemons, says *Agriculture in the Americas*. In the long narrow strip where citrus fruits can be successfully raised, a strip extending from the Peruvian border to the farm center at Angol some 20 degrees farther south, it is estimated that there are now about 14,800 acres devoted to citrus fruits. More than half of this acreage is planted to lemons.

Most of this land lies within a zone of scanty rainfall, where the year's precipitation is likely to average somewhat less than 20 inches. Irrigation is therefore necessary, and the orchards are watered from canals which tap the snow-fed rivers of the Andes mountains. On the other hand, the growers do not have to struggle with laborious and expensive outdoor heating devices, for severe winter temperatures are uncommon.

Lack of cold storage facilities is a handicap to Chile's orange industry. Most Chilean oranges are harvested in June, July, and August, the southern winter. Summer oranges are in great demand, and because of lack of facilities for holding over fruit from the winter crop, oranges have to be imported in quantity from

Ecuador and Brazil during the summer months.

### *Soil and water conservation in Mexico*

On July 19, 1946, a new Soil and Water Conservation Act went into effect in Mexico. In broad terms, its object is to develop, protect, and regulate the conservation of soil and water resources, which are, of course, basic to the nation's agriculture. All lands in the country—ejidos, private farm property, and public lands—are subject to its provisions.

The general plan of action covers research and study relative to the classification of land and water resources and the most adequate methods for their conservation; the adoption of all possible measures for conservation, for the prevention and correction of erosion and damage to dams and reservoirs, and for flood control; the dissemination of technical and practical knowledge regarding proper utilization of land, water, and other agricultural resources; the development of a permanent educational program covering conservation principles and practices, for the benefit of young people, campesinos, and the population in general; and the establishment of soil conservation districts. The Department of Agriculture, with the National Irrigation Commission and other government offices concerned with the subject, will be in charge of making the law effective in all its aspects.

The educational program will be put into operation in all the schools of the nation, in the ejidos, and among farmers and the general public.

The soil conservation districts are to be set up in existing irrigation districts and small irrigation units, and in the watersheds that supply such zones, as well as in regions where advanced erosion or

deforestation makes action imperative. The Soil and Water Conservation Division of the National Irrigation Commission will organize the new conservation districts and carry out the research, experiments, and demonstrations necessary to determine the best conservation methods to be employed. The Government is given authority by the law to acquire or expropriate any land required for the establishment of nurseries, forest belts, permanent lakes, experimental stations, or reserves.

To make the national program effective, the Government anticipates full cooperation from the states. Provision is made for forming Mixed State Conservation Commissions.

This law was approved by the President on December 31, 1945, and published in the *Diario Oficial* of June 19, 1946. All conflicting provisions of existing legislation on lands, waters, and forests were repealed.

Conservation in Mexico is a development of only very recent years. Mexico suffers from a scarcity of arable land. This has led to a greater and greater invasion by agriculture of the slopes where special agricultural techniques, such as contour ploughing, terracing, strip cropping, and others, should be employed. But few of the small farmers have ever heard of such practices, and they have long been accustomed to growing their crops on whatever land is available, sometimes even on slopes of almost 45°. Therefore, unknowingly but nonetheless surely, they have been destroying the one thing that makes their existence possible. Deforestation is another aspect of the problem. Since the majority of the people have for generations depended upon firewood and charcoal for fuel, innumerable forest areas have been denuded. With the trees went the topsoil, and this naturally increased

the rain water run-off and led to floods, irregularity of stream flow, sedimentation in lakes, the disappearance of springs, and falling water tables. Erosion also has brought about an enormous reduction in the area of grazing lands, and, again because of erosion, some areas that would afford excellent grazing have instead been put to crop use because of the lack of other arable land. The situation, in short, constitutes a vicious circle.

### *Uruguayan highways*

With the erection of several bridges the Aiguá-Pirarajá-Treinta y Tres road was ready for traffic last June. It saves 20 miles over the former route between the last-named city and Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay.

Another highway has been extended from Paysandú to Salto and Bella Unión, a total of about 240 miles.

Other roads approaching completion in June were the east-west highway from Melo to Paysandú and Salto, one from Durazno to Treinta y Tres, and another from Florida to Minas. These will make a total of about 1,000 miles constructed under the administration of President Amézaga, besides 650 miles of local roads.

### *Health conference*

In May 1946 an important health conference was held at Arica, Chile, by the Ministers of Health of *Chile, Peru, and Bolivia*. The result was an agreement signed by the representatives of the three countries providing for mutual cooperation in the solution of health problems in the frontier areas. Personnel and medical equipment are to be exchanged in the struggle against malaria, typhus, smallpox, yellow fever, and plague in these regions. A Committee to control and execute the

plan is to be set up, composed of delegates of the three governments, representatives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and local health authorities. The Committee will be appointed for a two-year period, and will meet twice a year. The first meeting will be held in La Paz.

### *Low-cost homes for Brazilians*

President Dutra of Brazil recently signed a decree-law creating the Fundação da Casa Popular (Popular Housing Foundation), designed to facilitate the acquisition of homes in both rural and urban areas by Brazilians or foreigners with ten years' residence in the country or with Brazilian-born children. This Foundation will make loans for the construction or purchase of moderately-priced homes, and property acquired through such loans will not be subject to tax until the loans have been paid up. The homes will not be negotiable, but should they become inadequate for the beneficiaries' families, may be returned to the Foundation and exchanged for another. In making the loans preference will be given in rural areas to persons growing essential food products.

The initial capital of the Foundation will be 2,000,000,000 cruzeiros (the cruzeiro equals \$.0527), consisting of a 3,000,000-cruzeiro federal appropriation, values represented by lands owned by the nation or by states or municipalities, loans from social welfare institutions, and certain compulsory loans from individuals. These compulsory loans, which are one of the most interesting features of the plan will come from persons purchasing land valued at over 200,000 cruzeiros, who will be forced to make loans amounting to 0.5 percent of the value, and from builders or purchasers of edifices with an area of 2,150 or more square feet, who must lend

to the Foundation 15 cruzeiros per 11 square feet.

The decree provides that the construction of homes for workers will henceforth be a requisite for the installation or continued functioning of large-scale industrial establishments. Such construction may be financed through the Foundation. National, state, and local governments are authorized to expropriate unproductive lands in order to make them available for the construction of low-cost houses.

### *Larger water supply for Caracas*

One of South America's large water supply systems is now under construction in Venezuela. Caracas, with its rapidly growing population, has not had enough water for its needs during the past century. New waterworks which will function in conjunction with the inadequate plant now in use were begun in 1945 and may perhaps be in operation in 1947. They will be capable of further enlargement to meet the city's future expansion.

Water for the new development is to be brought from two different regions. Some will come from the Valle River, south of Caracas, and some from three other rivers, the Agua Fría, the San Pedro, and the Maracao, which drain the rough mountainous country to the southwest. There will be two separate chlorination-filtration plants.

Wartime scarcities of machinery and shipping space have made it necessary to use on this project such a variety of machines that the handling of the miscellaneous spare parts has been a source of much delay. Local conditions offer still further difficulties. Local roads are few, all roads of access have to be specially built, and rains are often very heavy; at one point the laborers have had to be transported



across country by tractor, a ride of an hour and a half from the nearest road.

### *Pensions for Argentine industrial workers*

A recent presidential decree in Argentina provided for the creation by the National Institute of Social Welfare of a pension fund for all industrial workers. This fund will be maintained principally by the contributions of workers at the rate of 7 percent of their total monthly pay and by the employer's contribution of 9 percent of total wages paid. Workers and employers will make supplementary payments of 1 and 2 percent respectively to provide for the recognition of services prior to the establishment of the fund. In addition to these payments, employers will have to swell the fund by paying either  $\frac{1}{8}$  percent of their total monthly sales or an additional 3 percent of their total wage bill. Whatever part of the fund is not used to pay benefits, cover administrative expenses, and meet the cost of a medical service "which may be organized" will be invested in mortgage bonds guaranteed by the State, loan operations, the construction or purchase of buildings for the Institute, to be used as offices or for social services, and in individual or collective housing for sale or rent to affiliates.

The only workers in Argentina not now covered by pension funds are those engaged in farming, forestry, fishing, and domestic service.

### *Boy Scout conference in Bogotá*

Cooperation among the Americas was the keynote of the First Inter-American Conference of Boy Scouts, which was held in Bogotá, Colombia, from May 27 to June 1, 1946. Flags of all the American republics

occupied a place of honor at every meeting. A conference motto was adopted: "Union of the Americas for Scouting." Out of the conference grew a new permanent body which is to be called the Inter-American Scout Organization, and which held a preliminary meeting in Bogotá.

Delegates to the May conference were men who have directed and guided the activities of Boy Scouts in American countries. For the boys themselves it is hoped that an inter-American meeting may be arranged before long somewhere in the hemisphere. Presiding over the meetings at Bogotá was Juan Lainé, director of the work in Mexico. The Archbishop of Colombia gave the conference the blessing of the Church, and addresses were made by leaders from Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, and other countries.

### *Summer school in Guatemala*

During the summer of 1946, the University of San Carlos, Antigua, Guatemala, opened its doors to students from the University of Houston and Florida Southern College. Under the direction of Dr. Ludd M. Spivey, President of Florida Southern College, 34 students and 2 faculty members attended for 5 weeks a course based on the regular summer school of the College and offering credit for the number of subjects taken by each student. Dr. Spivey taught sociology and social psychology; Dr. Dana Coman, botany; and Miss Mary Ann Chesbrough, art and textiles. Besides these classes given by members of the faculty in the United States, several lectures on art, education, history, economics, and ethnology were given by Guatemalans. Dr. Spivey plans to bring in the summer of 1947, 2 groups of 50 students each for periods of 5 weeks to Antigua, and to encourage Guatemalan university students

to visit Florida Southern College during the coming academic year.

Thirty-two students from the University of Houston, under the direction of Dr. Joseph S. Werlin, arrived in Antigua in June for a short summer course at the Faculty of Humanities, ending on June 27. Dean José Rolz-Bennet, of the University of San Carlos, recruited a group of specialists to give lectures on Guatemalan history, literature, music, handicraft, public education, painting and sculpture, agriculture and industry, commerce and banking, political organization, social problems, ethnological aspects of the population, Belize; and the geography of Central America. The students found their stay both entertaining and profitable.

The University of Houston has offered to pay the stipends of local residents who can give lectures in English next year and has offered one scholarship to a Guatemalan student to be chosen by the authorities at the University of Guatemala to cover tuition and the opportunity to earn part or all of the living expenses for 1 year. The University has under consideration organizing a summer school similar to the one in Mexico. It would offer courses in the history of Central America, the outline of civilization of Guatemala, economic geography of Central America, Latin American literature, Spanish conversation and correspondence. Because of the increasing inquiries which are being received from the United States about summer school at this University, it is believed that if the summer school is organized it will be highly successful.

### *Brazil and the United States cooperate in industrial education*

Notes have recently been exchanged between representatives of the Brazilian and United States Governments implementing

the Agreement signed last January between the Brazilian Ministry of Education and Health and the Inter-American Educational Foundation, providing for a co-operative program to be carried on in the field of industrial education. The Foundation is to provide a small body of specialists in industrial education to assist in carrying out the plan, and is to work with Brazilian authorities in 1, conducting research programs designed to help solve the problems of both countries in this field; 2, providing the means for Brazilian administrators, educators, and technicians to come to the United States to study, give lectures, and exchange ideas with their colleagues in this country; and 3, offering training courses for teachers of industrial education.

As the executive body in carrying out the Agreement, a Brazilian-American Commission on Industrial Education will be created. The Foundation will contribute \$250,000 toward the program, which is scheduled to terminate June 30, 1948. The Brazilian Government, in addition to its regular expenditures for industrial education, will set aside \$500,000 for carrying out its part of the plan.

### *Cuban painting abroad*

MODERN Cuban painting is becoming more widely known in foreign countries. A large exhibit was circulated throughout the United States in 1944-46 by the Museum of Modern Art; Argentina welcomed its first show of pictures by Cuban artists, while Mexico had its second.

Last June 36 works of the following artists were on view in the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico City: Eduardo Abela, F. I. Acevedo, Jorge Arche, Carmelo Mirta Cerra, Cundo Bermúdez, Roberto Diago, Carlos Enríquez, Eberto Escobedo, Julio Girona, Lam, Mariano, Martínez-

Pedro, Felipe Orlando, Osvaldo, Amelia Peláez, Pogolotti, Fidelio Ponce, Portocarrero, Ravenet, Serra-Badué, Uver Solís, and Víctor Manuel.

Early in July the Museum of the Province of Buenos Aires at La Plata, Argentina, opened a show called Eleven Cuban Painters, comprising more than 70 paintings. This collection was presented in August by the National Bureau of Culture in Buenos Aires, and then started on a tour of provincial museums. The Argentine press received the exhibition with great cordiality.

### *New statute for Peruvian universities*

Peru's four national universities—located at Lima (University of San Marcos), Trujillo, Arequipa, and Cuzco—are subject to a new university statute, issued in April 1946.

This statute calls for the maintenance by each university of a preparatory school that will give students a good general background, as well as a *colegio universitario* (university secondary school), conducted by the Faculties of Letters and Sciences, to impart general cultural knowledge as a foundation for whatever profession the student chooses. The universities must also maintain, in addition to their regular faculties, a school of advanced studies dedicated exclusively to research.

Of particular interest are the changes which the Statute brings to 395-year-old San Marcos, the dean of South American universities. Three new faculties were created in this venerable institution—Chemistry, Veterinary Science, and Education. (The other faculties in the University are Law, Medicine, Letters, Sciences, Economic and Commercial Sciences, Pharmacy, and Dentistry.) Institutions to be affiliated with San Marcos are: the

School of Engineers, the National School of Agriculture, the School of Fine Arts, the Alcedo Academy of Music, the School of Social Service, the Institute of Anthropological Research, and the Museum of Anthropology.

Two important articles of the statute are those providing for flexible programs of studies in the various sections of the universities and for the judging of a student's ability by his habits of work, intellectual achievements, and aptitude for study throughout the course rather than exclusively by the final or midyear examination. Lectures may be used only for theoretical subjects, and wherever possible are to be replaced by directed study, debate, papers, and research.

Each university is to organize a Cultural Extension Institute which will make its resources available to as many as possible through lectures, short lecture courses, radio programs, concerts, motion pictures, forums, and round table discussions.

The statute provides for more equitable representation of students in their organizations and for increased social welfare services for both students and faculty. Medical assistance is to be provided in the form of clinics and free consultations, and a compulsory social security system, supported by the institution as well as by students and teachers, is to be organized in each university. As many scholarships and travel grants as possible are to be made available for deserving students.

A Departmental Institute of Higher Learning is to be organized in each Department capital where no university exists to study the historical, geographical, social, economic, artistic, and scientific aspects of the region.

Increased funds are being made available to help put into practice the provisions of the new Statute. The 1946 appropriation

for the University of San Marcos amounted to over 9,652,000 soles (the sol equals about \$0.154 U.S. cy.) or double the appropriation of any previous year. Part

of this sum will go toward the construction of the university buildings (*ciudad universitaria*) provided for in the organic education law of 1941.



Press Association photograph

#### PERUVIAN MUSICIANS

Standing with Dr. Juan Bautista de Lavalle, Peruvian representative on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, are the members of the Inka Taky Trio, Imma Sumack, soprano, Moisés Vivanco, guitarist, and Cholina Rivero, contralto. On July 30 they delighted a large audience assembled in the Pan American Union gardens by their rendition of Peruvian folk songs and dances, some of which have been handed down from Inca times. The music was extremely interesting and the performers superb.

#### *We see by the papers that—*

- Members of the diplomatic corps of the Republic of Uruguay in the United States, prominent business executives from Montevideo, representatives of the Department of State in Washington and numerous distinguished visitors joined in the celebration of "Fiesta Days," July 27-30, 1946,

in the city of *Montevideo*, Chippewa County, *Minnesota*. Street decorations in the colors of the United States and *Uruguay*, a rodeo, dancing to a well-known orchestra, fireworks, a championship softball game, and colorful costumes featured the 3-day festivities. An exchange of greetings by shortwave from Montevideo, Minnesota, to Montevideo, Uruguay,

was broadcast through the International Broadcasting Division of the Department of State.

- In deference to the agreement of member nations of the International Monetary Fund to end "multiple-currency" practices, *Brazil* has established one value for the sale and purchase of its exchange for foreign trade purposes which averages the two rates ("free" and "official") that existed before. The basic rate is now approximately 18.96 cruzeiros to the dollar, making the cruzeiro worth about 5.27 cents.

- An estimated \$26,000,000 will go into public works in Buenos Aires in 1946. The sum includes remodeling of several squares, construction of streets, new markets, and drainage systems, and the upkeep of hospitals, public buildings, parks, and gardens.

- In Habana, *Cuba*, the sum of \$66,000 was authorized by Presidential Decree of July 4 for the purchase of 50 jeeps for use by inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture.

- A recent decree-law in *Brazil* prohibited all games of chance throughout the Republic, stating that the practice and exploitation of such games is contrary to the moral, legal, and religious traditions of the Brazilian people.

- The province of Cordoba in *Argentina* has under way a 6-year highway plan for constructing 1,100 miles of roads, of which 600 miles will be paved with concrete. This will give the province a highway system of 2,800 miles, which will doubtless be greatly enjoyed not only by the Cordobans but by the many summer visitors to the beautiful Cordoban hills.

- A large new factory for ready-made clothing is being built in Lima, at a cost of some \$315,000, about \$120,000 of which will be spent for machinery. The super-

intendent will be an American. Another Lima factory has purchased from the American owners the right to use the patent for sanforizing cotton goods.

- In accordance with Decree No. 9,626 of March 30, 1946, the *Argentine* Government has expropriated all port installations in that country, including grain elevators. The elevators were already being operated by the Government through the National Commission of Grains and Elevators as a result of Decree No. 10,107 of April 20, 1944. The Government will pay a sum equivalent to some \$7,500,000 to former owners of these installations.

- The Creole Petroleum Corporation provides seven oil fields in *Venezuela* with an abundant supply of pure water. Most of it is taken from rivers and later filtered and chlorinated, but at Jusepín there are nine artesian wells. In some places the residents of surrounding towns as well as the workers in the oil fields enjoy the use of the water.

- Last May the government of Argentina authorized the expenditure of about \$10,000,000 in the fight against locusts, which were causing much damage to crops.

- Nine-day air-cruises from *Boston* to *Habana* are being offered weekly. The flight takes 10 hours.

- Among the prizes recently offered for the best ideas on the future development of the Merchandise Mart in *Chicago* as the world's greatest merchandise center were flights to Habana and Mexico City and around South America.

- *El Salvador* and *Guatemala* have signed an agreement providing for the construction of an international bridge between the two countries over the Paz River. The Highway Departments of Guatemala and El Salvador will work together in deciding the exact location of the bridge and in

supervising its construction. Contractors in both countries will be given an opportunity to bid for the work of constructing the bridge, and the winner will be allowed 6 months to complete the project. The cost will be divided equally, and both republics will contribute technicians, administrators, and laborers. Each country will build the approaches necessary to connect the bridge with the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Highway when it is finished.

- Two important new diamond deposits have recently been discovered in *Brazil*. One of these, which according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the largest diamond deposit ever discovered in Central Brazil, is located near São Simão in the southeastern section of the State of Goiaz. One diamond miner is said to have taken about \$10,000 worth of stones from this deposit in one week. The other deposit, from which more than 2,000 fairly large stones have already been taken, is in Gilbões in the southern part of the State of Piauí.

- *Costa Rica* is at last in a position to export corn. The agricultural development program of 1945 provided a fund to be used for farm credits and for crop purchases, so that plantings of rice, corn, and beans have been larger than ever. White sugar production, on the other hand, has been steadily decreasing since the peak crop of 1941-42.

- More than twice as many honeydew melons were shipped out of *Chile* in 1945 as in 1944, and almost all were consumed in the United States.

- A monument to the Brazilian patriot Joaquim José Da Silva Xavier—"Tiradentes"—was dedicated in *Buenos Aires* on June 1, 1946. The President of Argentina, his Ministers and officials of the Brazilian and Argentine governments

witnessed the ceremony. The monument is the work of the sculptor Juan Carlos Olivia Navarro, of Argentina, and was erected at the suggestion of the Instituto Argentino-Brasileño de Cultura. "Tiradentes" (1748-1793), one of the first leaders of the movement for Brazilian independence, was executed in 1790 for his participation in an attempt at revolution.

- *Argentina's* Postal Savings Bank has recently established a money order service to facilitate the safe transfer of funds throughout the country. It is also inaugurating a travelers' check service.

- A marble bust of *Cuba's* great patriot José Martí was unveiled in the capital city of *Guatemala* May 19, 1946, a gift from President Grau San Martín of Cuba.

- *Peru* is beginning this year a 5-year plan for building schools. By the end of 1950 a total of 316 schools, distributed throughout the country's 133 districts, will be built at a cost of over \$3,000,000. This program is designed to keep the improvement of school buildings in step with the rapid development of pedagogical methods.

- *Guatemala's* campaign for wider education is being carried to villages remote from the capital by small traveling units equipped to teach not only reading and writing but also the elements of hygiene and civics. Each unit brings seed suited to the locality, and gives instruction on the growing of food crops.

- The oldest public library in *Cuba* belongs to the Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País (Economic Society of Friends of the Country). It was opened in June 1793, and by the next month had 1,402 books. Now it has more than a hundred thousand volumes and many valuable manuscripts, installed in a new building.

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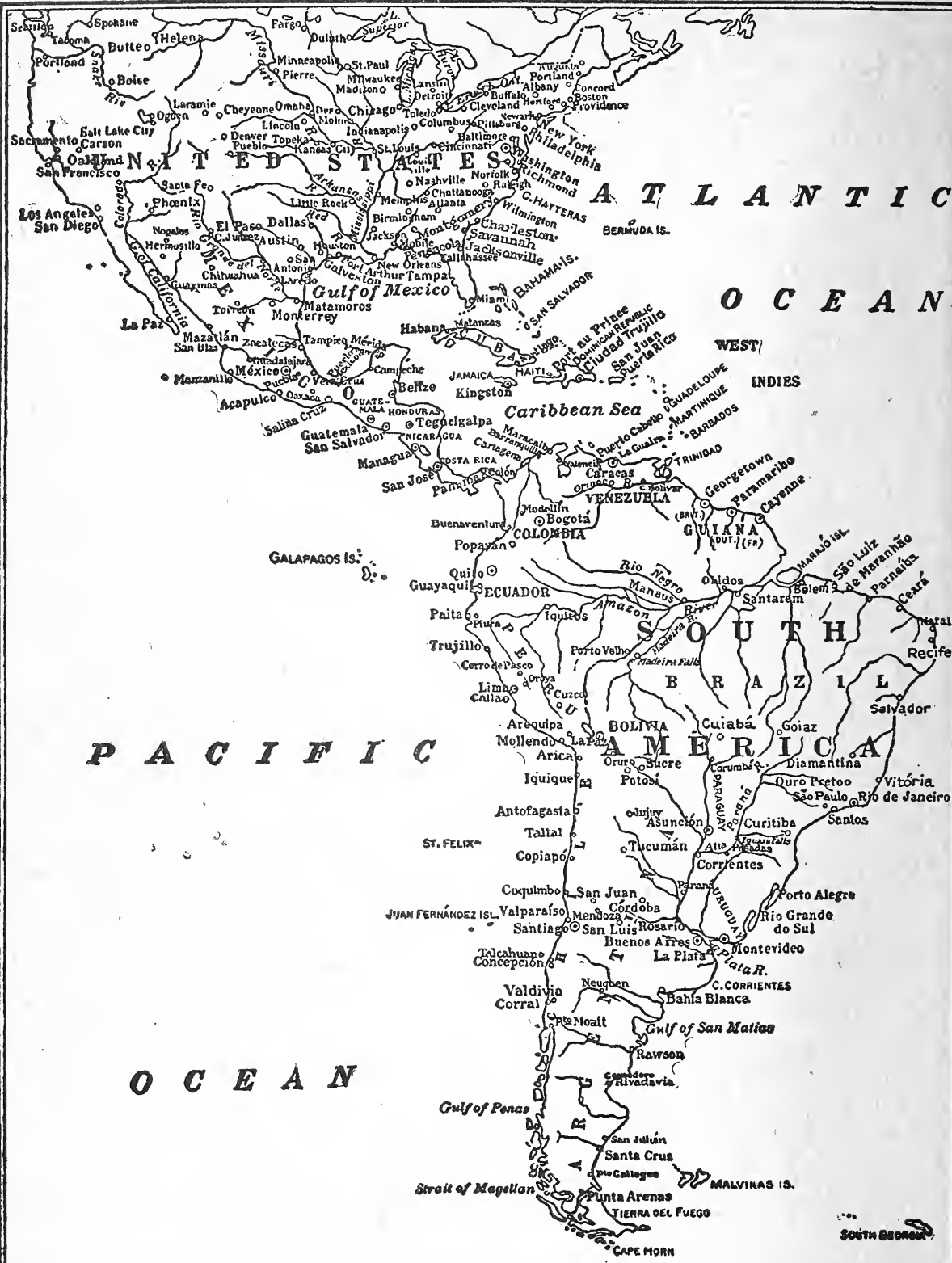
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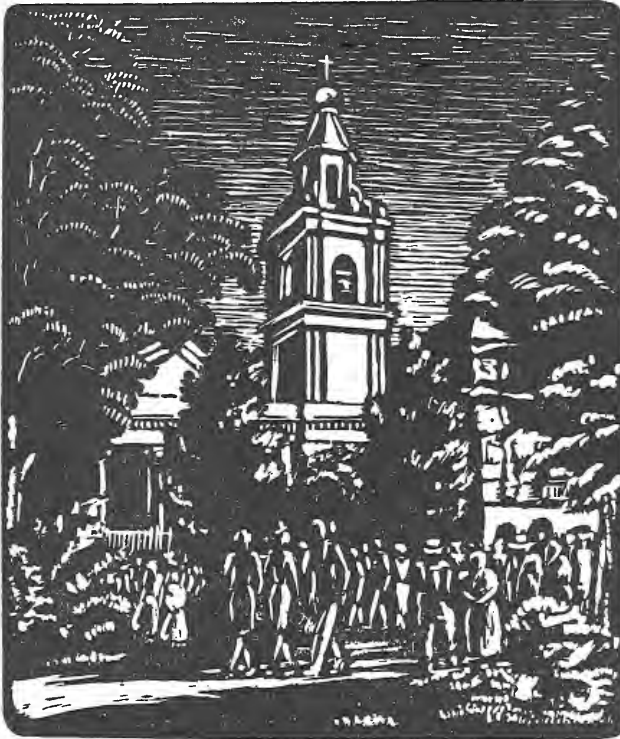
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BULLETIN OF THE MASSACHUSETTS  
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# Pan American Union



CATHEDRAL OF SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO

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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

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The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.

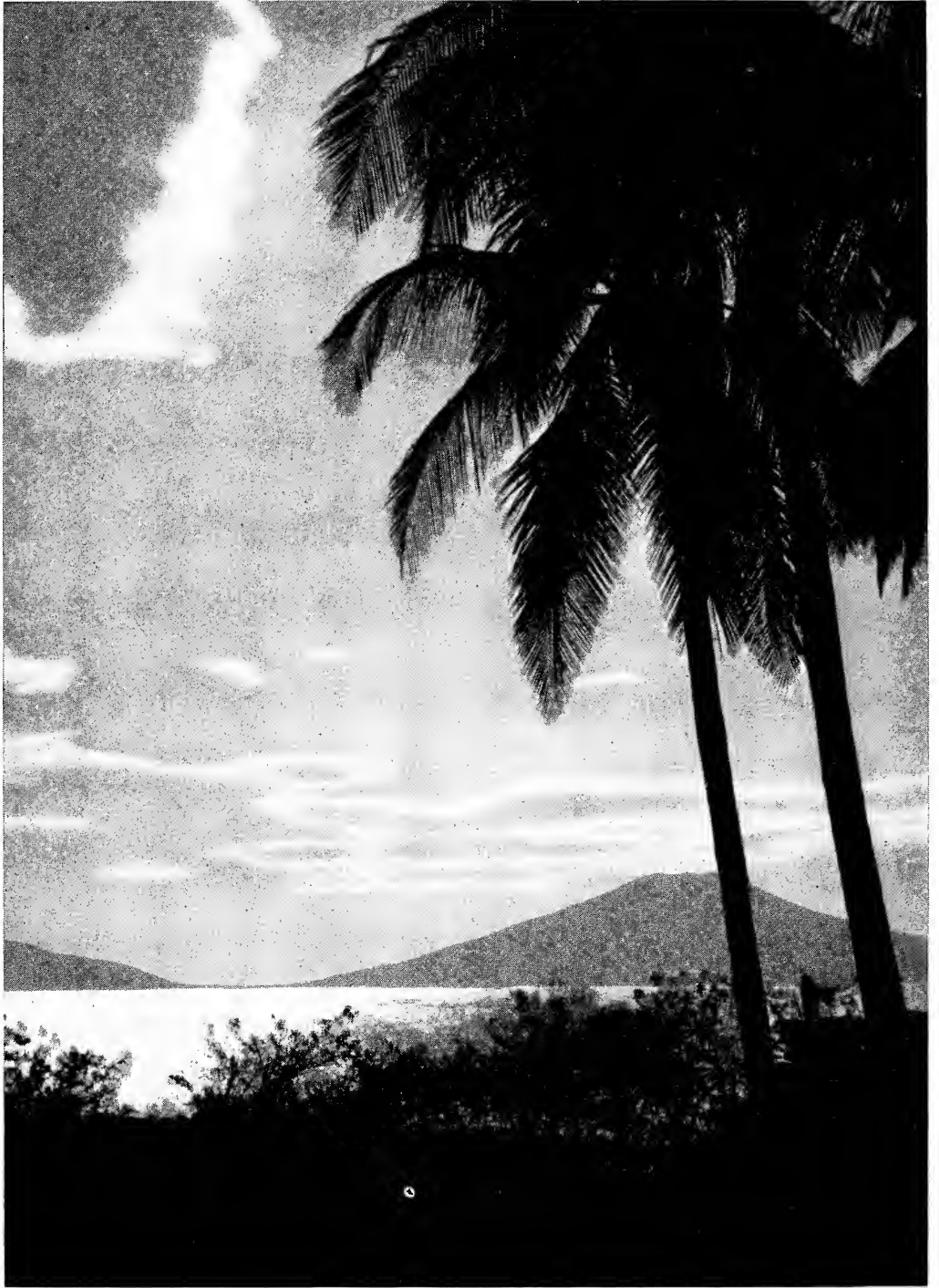


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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE:  
GOLF CLUB AT SANTIAGO, CHILE  
(Courtesy of Grace Line)





ALONG THE COAST OF HONDURAS

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 11



NOVEMBER 1946

## An American in Honduras *The Agricultural School at Malcotal*

LLOYD H. HUGHES

*Education Officer, Inter-American Educational Foundation, Inc.*

THE Escuela del Malcotal, which is located about one mile from Minas de Oro, Honduras, is an unusual institution. It was founded thirty-two years ago by Harold I. Brosious, a mining engineer from Minnesota. After graduating from the University of Minnesota School of Mines in 1904, Mr. Brosious followed his chosen profession in various parts of the United States until 1910. In that year, at the age of twenty-nine, he went to Honduras as a chemist and mill man for the Antigua Gold Copper Mining Company. The following year, however, the company went

broke and Brosious returned to the United States.

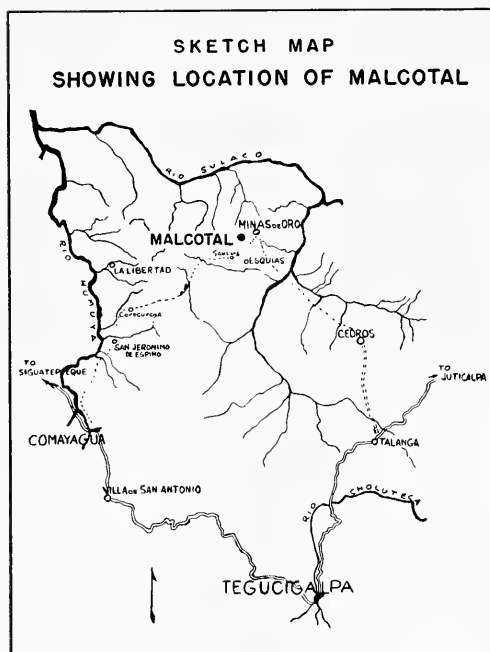
The region around Minas de Oro is very rugged and beautiful, and it made a lasting impression on the young mining engineer. As a result, he was back in Honduras again in 1912. At first he prospected for gold, but within a few months he abandoned this career and decided to become a rancher. With borrowed money he bought a ranch about a mile from Minas de Oro which he named Malcotal.<sup>1</sup> He imported a herd of Holstein-Friesian cattle from Minnesota and set to work as a dairy farmer.

One day a young boy named Miguel Ángel Morales came and asked Brosious for a job. Miguel was hired and within a

*The information in this article was taken from the files of the Science and Education Division of the Office of Inter-American Affairs; from an unpublished account of a visit to the Escuela del Malcotal in February 1945 by Richard H. Lovald and Ten Broeck Williamson, field employees of the Food Supply Division of the Office of Inter-American Affairs; and from the files of the Inter-American Schools Service of the American Council on Education.*

<sup>1</sup> Malcotal means live-oak grove. The ranch was given the name of Malcotal because it contained a grove of malcotes, a species of live oak that bears very large acorns.





Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

short time he had become very much attached to the man from the United States. The boy was illiterate and had never attended school even for one day. His keen native intelligence, however, presented a challenge to Brosious who, in the evenings after the work of the day was done, undertook to teach him the rudiments of learning. Noting the progress made by Miguel, other boys working for Brosious also asked to be taught. Brosious agreed and classes in practical agriculture, mining, Spanish, and English were organized. This was the beginning of the Escuela Agrícola del Malcotal.

From this informal and uncalculated beginning the school has grown to a current enrollment of over one hundred boys. It is located in the heart of an isolated and inaccessible region in the western section of Honduras. Though the school is only fifty miles from Tegucigalpa, the capital of the country, the usual channels of communication are so difficult that it

takes about fourteen hours to make the trip between these two points. Two recent visitors to Malcotal described their trip from Tegucigalpa in these words:

We left Tegucigalpa in a station wagon on February 18th at 7:00 a. m., arriving at Cedros via Talanga at 11:00 a. m. Leaving Cedros we started toward Minas de Oro along what at best is a very poor oxcart trail, which would be completely impassable during the rainy season. By dint of perseverance and much rock removal we arrived by 6:00 p. m. at a settlement called La Peña. Since it was then practically dark and the road was becoming increasingly impassable, we left the station wagon and proceeded on mules, which had been sent by Mr. Brosious. After two hours' ride we arrived at Minas de Oro, and in another forty-five minutes, or about 9:15 p. m., we arrived at Malcotal.<sup>2</sup>

The school is located at an elevation of 4,000 feet in steeply rolling, pine-covered country. The climate is quite even throughout the year; rainfall averages about seventy inches annually. There are only two seasons, the rainy season and the dry season. Rains begin about May and continue through November, when the dry season sets in. The property of the school includes 185 acres of *ejido*, or municipal land at Malcotal; 1,500 acres known as Las Jaguas, which extend from the school to the town of Esquias; and more than 1,200 acres of river bottom along the Sulaco River. The *ejido* property belongs to the municipality of Minas de Oro, but the other two estates are owned by Mr. Brosious. At present, only the 185 acres of *ejido* are being farmed. With better farm equipment and health protection for workers, the 1,200 acres of river bottom could also be farmed.

The school is housed in several buildings, including an original wooden structure that was on the land when Brosious bought it. Besides the original structure there are

<sup>2</sup> Richard H. Lovald and Ten Broeck Williamson, "Visit to Malcotal and Coyocutena Schools," MSS., Food Supply Division, Office of Inter-American Affairs, 1.



the office building and dormitory for non-paying students; a two-story building that contains classrooms, the dining room, and dormitories for paying students; a cottage for the assistant principal and his family; and the necessary farm and equipment buildings.

The site of the school is very salubrious and health conditions at the school are good. During the entire period of operations, 1914-1946, only one student has died at the school. This is unusual when one considers the general conditions of health that prevail in this section of Honduras, and the ordinary condition of the boys on arrival at the school. It is also unusual when one considers that the nearest doctor is fifty miles by muleback from the school. Much of the credit for the health and sanitary conditions that prevail must be given to Brosious. He has a good practical knowledge of medicine and first aid and has been treating the sick on and off the campus for many years. The people know that he is not a doctor, but they have great confidence in his curative powers because he is from the United States, the great republic of North America. Fair treatment and the fact that he comes from the United States cause the people of the vicinity to turn to him whenever they are in trouble, be it due to sickness or some other cause.

Brosious began to take students in 1914. His original objective was to help boys obtain an education that would aid them in a practical way to prepare for lives of usefulness and happiness. For the first fifteen years the school was operated almost exclusively for poor boys who wanted to work for their education and who had no other means of paying for their schooling. In 1929 the first paying students were accepted and their number has constantly increased until today enrollment is about equally divided between

paying and non-paying students. For those who pay the monthly tuition is \$20.00. This sum covers room, board, instruction, and laundry. From 1914 to 1945 about 300 boys graduated from the Escuela del Malcotal.

Graduates are now scattered far and wide and many now hold positions of trust and responsibility. Because Brosious teaches English very effectively a number of his graduates have found employment on boats that run between Honduras and Panama and Honduras and the United States. Others, like César Díaz del Valle, have been hired as dairy managers by Honduran hacendados. Still others, like Antonio Fernández, have been employed by the United Fruit Company, because of their knowledge of English and agriculture. Antonio Fernández graduated from Malcotal in 1930 and from the University of Minnesota School of Agriculture in 1932. He is now working as an agronomist with the United Fruit Company.

Julio Pineda is probably the most successful graduate of Malcotal. He was born in Jinotepe, Nicaragua and attended the Escuela del Malcotal from 1930 to 1937. In the latter year he enrolled in the University of Minnesota School of Agriculture from which he graduated with honors in 1939, eighteen months after enrolling. Because his thinking corresponded so well with that of Brosious, he was hired on graduation from the University of Minnesota to work as assistant principal of Malcotal. Recently he was named *asesor técnico* (supervisor) of secondary education in Honduras.

Other outstanding graduates include Alfonso Quintanilla and Francisco Ortiz, who are now teachers of English in El Salvador; Donald and Julio Delgado, who have been at Malcotal for ten years as students and teachers; Walter and George Cameriano, who studied at Malcotal and



Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

## THE FARM AT MALCOTAL

on graduation were hired as teachers of weaving; Julián Cruz, a prosperous Honduran rancher and businessman; and César Zepeda, also a prominent rancher and businessman.

Many of the graduates come to the United States to continue their studies, and as a rule they do exceptionally good work in our schools. In the last year two boys were placed in high schools in the United States, one in Texas and the other in New York. Prior to coming to the United States these boys had attended Malcotal for about a year each. At the time of enrollment in Malcotal one of the boys knew a little English and the other none at all. Both are doing exceptionally well in their work in this country.

Graduates of Malcotal have begun to enroll in the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, founded in 1941 by the United Fruit Company at Zamorano, Honduras. In 1945 seven of Brosious' boys enrolled there and five of them were graduated in March of 1946. All the boys did especially good work at Zamorano and the Director and teachers of that school told Brosious that

the boys from Malcotal were the best pupils that they had there.

The majority of the graduates, however, go back to their native communities where they have become, for the most part, successful farmers or businessmen. Honduran communities eagerly welcome them and seek their advice on all sorts of problems, for their knowledge of health, physiology, and agriculture and their high moral standards make them a valuable addition to any village.

Robert R. Boyd of the Richfield Oil Company of California, who visited Honduras in the winter of 1946, was much impressed by the graduates of Malcotal whom he met in various parts of the country. In a letter of April 25, 1946 to Dr. Roy Tasco Davis of the Inter-American Schools Service he wrote:

During my visit, I had occasion to contact a great many former pupils of El Malcotal school and I was highly impressed with the results of the education that they had received in that place. My first contact occurred as I stepped off the plane at Tegucigalpa and met a fine appearing young man who is acting as an interpreter for the custom house and as general contact man for the public

at the Pan American Airport. He was able to smooth out many difficulties for me, and from that time on, I was in nearly constant contact with boys or mature men who had learned English at El Malcotal. I found them in positions of trust with the Fruit Companies at La Ceiba, Tela, San Pedro, Lima and elsewhere. Mr. Marsh and Mr. McLuth of the Fruit Company spoke very highly of the [Malcotal] boys employed by them, volunteering the information that they were outstanding in character and ability.

The motto of the school is "The greatest good to the greatest number," and its objective is to help the largest possible number of boys to develop their talents and character so that they may become the most useful and happy men in their communities. This has been achieved in a surprisingly large number of instances, as we have already seen.

The program of studies includes the following four courses:

#### *First Course*

English	Agriculture
Manual work	Cooking (elective)

#### *Second Course*

English composition	Making of cheese and butter
Arithmetic	Agriculture
Reading	Manual Work
History of the United States	Algebra (elective)
Physiology	

#### *Third Course*

Advanced physiology	Botany
Rhetoric	Ancient history
Speech	Geometry (elective)
Physics	

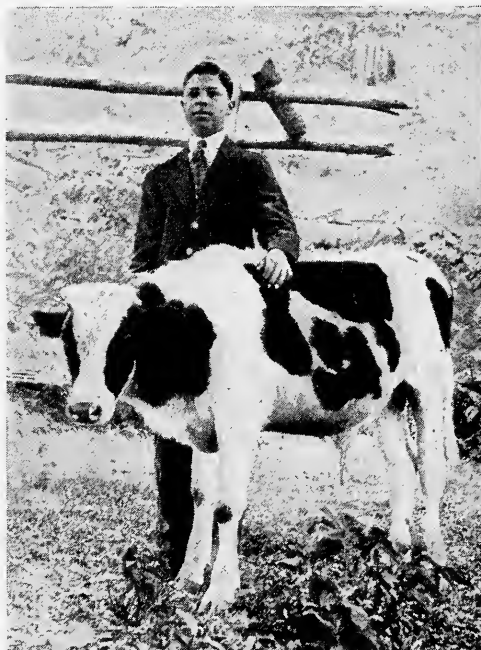
#### *Fourth Course*

Chemistry	Mineralogy
Advanced composition	Geology
English literature	Assaying
American literature	Quantitative analysis

All instruction in all courses is in English. During the first few months after enrollment the boys study English intensively to the point of mastery. Brosious' ability as a teacher of English is remarkable.

Boys who enroll in the school knowing no English at all are able, within eighteen months, to study and master college courses in chemistry and quantitative analysis in English and use English textbooks. During this period of intensive English preparation the boys also study agriculture and the care and use of tools and equipment. These latter activities prepare the boys for future agricultural activities at the school and also give them a welcome relief from the concentration on the study of English. All students, unless they are exempted by Mr. Brosious, follow the regular program of study.

It will be noted that the curriculum has been strongly influenced by Mr. Brosious' training as a mining engineer. This is especially noticeable insofar as science and mathematics are concerned. Formerly more agriculture was taught, but recently



Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

#### A PURE-BRED HOLSTEIN (1920)

The raising of good stock was early undertaken by the Malcotal School.

the agricultural content of the curriculum was reduced to make room for other subjects.

There is little classroom recitation, because Brosious believes in individual progress and in having teachers teach. The daily schedule of classes is as follows:

6:00 a. m. to 8:00 a. m. . . Work on the farm.  
 8:30 a. m. to 9:30 a. m. . . Breakfast.  
 9:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. . . Classes for paying students and work for non-paying students.  
 1:30 p. m. to 2:30 p. m. . . Lunch.  
 2:30 p. m. to 4:00 p. m. . . Study or recreation.  
 4:00 p. m. to 8:00 p. m. . . Classes for all students.

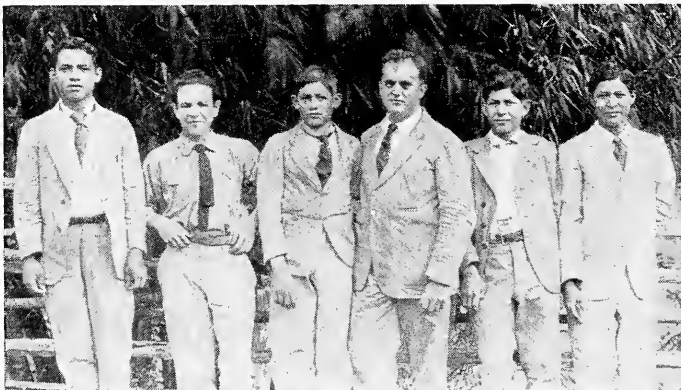
At 8:30 p. m. lights are out and all retire. It should be noted that there are only two meals a day and that paying students receive more hours of instruction per day than the non-paying students. Though the daily routines of the paying students and non-paying students are different, it should be indicated that there are no other distinctions between these two groups of students. Mr. Brosious insists that there be no class distinction between those who pay and those who work their way.

The boys and the teachers are all devoted to Mr. Brosious and to the school. Students frequently get up at four in the morning so that they may have more time

for study, and if requested by the students, the teachers also get up at that hour in order to give special attention to students who need extra assistance. In order to earn extra money, many of the boys work in the surrounding mines between 6:00 a. m. and 8:00 a. m. When times have been hard and the school has needed funds, the students have cheerfully donated extra earnings to Mr. Brosious to help pay for the cost of food.

In spite of the fact that the pupils work long hours at fatiguing jobs and eat only twice a day, it is customary for them to make consistent gains in weight during their stay at Malcotal. The gains during the first year at Malcotal are striking. It is not at all unusual for boys to increase their weight by thirty per cent during the first year with Mr. Brosious. During the last school year, which ended in March 1946, one boy gained twenty-seven pounds and several between thirty and forty per cent of their weight on enrollment day. Gains in weight after the first year are not so sharp, but they are easily noticeable. All of this bears witness to the nutritive value of the food that the boys eat and the general excellence of health conditions at Malcotal.

The school catalogue states that only boys between the ages of ten and fifteen,



Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

#### THE MALCOTAL SCHOOL IN 1922

Mr. Brosious and five boys, who then made up the entire student body.



Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

GROUP OF NON-PAYING STUDENTS IN 1943

who have completed the third grade, and who are of good moral character will be admitted. However, in practice, a boy who shows an interest in getting an education and who is willing to work his way is, as a rule, permitted to enroll. Brosious feels morally obligated to enroll all boys of good character and denies admission to applicants only when there is no other alternative. He has often said that he shudders to think of how many potential geniuses he has been forced to turn away during the thirty years the school has been operating. The following quotations set forth very effectively Brosious' feeling of obligations to the youth of Honduras:

It is only when one has to refuse entrance to a school as I am doing every week, that one feels the right to study that belongs to a boy who is willing to work for his education. When a lad carries his blankets and suitcase on his back for five days, crossing deep rivers and weathering storms in order to get to this little school, one just has no moral right to refuse him his opportunity. That happened a short time ago. And you can well believe the boy got his chance and is making good.

A few months ago I had a letter from an unknown young fellow who wished to come and study. But he said he was poor and could not

pay more than half the quota of twenty dollars a month. I explained that half of it would not pay for expenses now that food had increased in price several hundred per cent. But I explained that if he is really in earnest he could come and work entirely for his living while he studies. He came and is a wonderful student. Also he is a fine character. The other day he gave me \$40 and asked to be allowed to study with the paying students for two months. So now he is doing just that and making incredible strides in his English. Before coming he had planted a bean field and his mother sold the beans and sent him the money. He is investing his hard-earned money in his intellectual development. Can anyone beat that for good sense? Needless to say, when his two months are up I shall see that he continues studying as a paying student. It is a satisfaction to help one who is so earnest in carrying out his plan. He is going to make a truly great teacher and I shall have him teaching English to beginners in a short time.

In addition to Brosious and Julio Pineda, the faculty at the present includes Donald and Julio Delgado and Walter and George Cameriano.<sup>3</sup> Brosious rates Julio Pineda and Donald Delgado as the best teachers he has ever had. Both are

<sup>3</sup> *Julio Pineda has just been appointed supervisor of secondary education by the Ministry of Education and will soon assume his new duties. Donald Delgado will probably take his place as assistant principal.*

devoted to him and have willingly sacrificed flattering offers of jobs elsewhere to stay on with the School of Malcotal. The following extract from a letter written by Brosious on June 30, 1945 reflects the close relationship between Brosious and his teachers:

One of the best teachers I ever had is Donald Delgado. He has lived with me for nine years since he was fourteen years old. But this year he decided to give up teaching and take a correspondence course in electrical engineering and so got to work in an electrical plant at the coast. His brother Julio was going to teach in his stead. But Julio wanted to go to Zamorano to learn more of agriculture and when he left he telegraphed Donald he was leaving. Donald, knowing the desperate situation in which that would leave me, at once told his boss and left his work that he loved and where he was well paid to come and work for me at almost nothing a year. . . . I just hope that I may be permitted to help him in such a way that he may see that such thoughtfulness and kindness are appreciated.

The academic subjects are taught by Brosious, the Delgado brothers and Julio Pineda. Agricultural courses are taught by Brosious and Pineda. The two Cameriano brothers teach weaving. In the weaving class the boys are not only learning a trade, but are also weaving the cloth required for the manufacture of clothing for the entire student body.

Whatever success the school has had has come from its having adapted itself to local conditions. It is doing a much needed job in Honduras, giving some of the young Hondureños who have little money a remarkable training in the fundamentals of education and preparing them to utilize and develop the resources of their country. The school is doing even more than this. Through the training it gives in English and in American ways, and especially through the personal qualities of Mr. Brosious himself, it exerts a wholesome influence of great value in the promotion of better relations between Honduras and

the United States. In recognition of the importance of the work being carried on at this school, the Science and Education Division of the Office of Inter-American Affairs, predecessor of the Inter-American Educational Foundation, Inc., in 1942 donated \$7,500 to the Escuela del Malcotal for the purchase of equipment, repairs, and the payment of teachers' salaries.

A recent visitor described the work at Malcotal in these words:

I naturally felt skeptical of the results of such a group of courses for boys of such mixed background. The examination papers that I have enclosed under separate cover together with other data regarding the school disposed of my doubts, however. From those who recognize and name Mr. Brosious' faults as well as sing his virtues, moreover, I have ample testimony of his unusual abilities as a teacher. Some parents have sent him backward, wayward, and indifferent boys; and I am told that in almost every case. . . . Brosious has made men of them.

I have never seen boys of more active mind or of more eagerness to learn.

Enrollment in February 1945 was 104 and included 35 paying students and 69 non-paying students. The exact enrollment for 1946 is not known, but it is in excess of 100. This represents a sixty-one per cent increase over 1942, when the total enrollment was 64.

Finance has always been a problem at Malcotal. Except for tuition and the sale of agricultural products the school has always been dependent upon whatever finances were available to Brosious. Brosious has contributed all of his personal income to the school, including a \$10,000 commission for the sale of the Agua Fría Mine. His partner has donated about \$29,000 for the development and maintenance of the school. Brosious has also heavily mortgaged his properties to get money for the school, often borrowing at interest rates as high as 24 percent a year.

In November 1945 some mining asso-

ciates of Brosious advanced him funds to buy the equipment needed to complete his assaying outfit and to sink some pits on his property. Brosious was very pleased with this loan because he still had hopes of making a gold strike that would pay off his accumulated debts and put the school on a sound financial basis. On receiving these funds he said, "I hope I may be able to use this money to give Fortune a chance to smile on our school if she will only do so."

Besides the \$7,500 donated to the school by the Science and Education Division of the Office of Inter-American Affairs for purposes already mentioned, the Inter-American Schools Service of the American Council on Education has also provided limited assistance in the form of books and materials of instruction. The school, however, is a creation of Mr. Brosious and any achievements made are the result of his tireless energy, devotion, ability as a teacher, and financial sacrifice.

The point of view of Honduras toward the work of Mr. Brosious was very aptly expressed in a statement made to Mr. Boyd by a Tegucigalpa businessman. "Mr. Brosious has done more for Honduras than anyone else who has ever lived here, not only in making educational facilities available to boys who otherwise would have had none, and thereby setting better standards of living, but in breaking down the antipathy formerly held toward North Americans, and promoting generally a feeling of friendliness toward people from the United States." This statement reflects the general attitude of Hondurans toward the work of the School of Malcotal, and indicates that Brosious has not only built an exceptional school, but has also contributed considerably to the improvement of relations between Honduras and the United States. No finer tribute could be paid to any foreigner residing in Honduras.



Courtesy of Lloyd H. Hughes

AN AMERICAN STUDENT IN 1943

# Jorge García Granados

## *Representative of Guatemala on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union*

JORGE GARCÍA GRANADOS, Guatemalan Ambassador to the United States, has been named the representative of his country on the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.

Sr. García was born in Guatemala City on April 21, 1900, and attended school first in his native city and later in France. When he returned to Guatemala he pursued his secondary studies at the National Institute in Guatemala City, and passed from there to the National University of Guatemala, where he specialized in law. For his final thesis he was awarded the Gálvez gold medal, which is the highest prize granted by the University.

In 1920 he began his diplomatic career as Secretary of the Guatemalan Legation in El Salvador and a year later filled a similar position at the Guatemalan Legation in England. From 1928 to 1932 he was a representative in the Legislative Assembly and in 1944 was Chairman of the Constitutional Assembly. At the time of his appointment as Guatemalan Ambassador to the United States in 1945 he was acting as Chairman of the National Assembly.

His teaching career has included posts as Professor of Sociology in the University of Guatemala (1929-1932) and Professor of History in the University of Mexico (1939-1943).

Also successful in the field of journalism, he was editor of *La República* from 1918 to 1920 and of *El Universo* in 1928. From 1935 to 1937 he was a contributor to *El Nacional* of Mexico and from 1937 to 1938 he was editor of the *Boletín* of the Division



of Propaganda of the Spanish Republic. He has also been a contributor to several Spanish and Hispanic American magazines.

He is the author of a monograph entitled *El Gobierno del Dr. Mariano Gálvez*, which won a first prize from the Historical and Geographical Society of Guatemala; another monograph *Biografía de Beethoven*, which appeared in 1927 and won a first prize from the Musical Union of Guatemala; *Evolución Sociológica de Guatemala*, published in 1929; and *Los Veneros del Diablo*, a history of Mexican petroleum, which was published in 1941.



# Fourth General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History and Third Pan American Consultation on Cartography

ROBERT H. RANDALL

*Chief Examiner, Surveying and Mapping, United States Bureau of the Budget, and Chairman of the Commission on Cartography of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History*

THE Government of Venezuela, from August 22 to September 1, 1946, acted as host to the Fourth General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History and to the Third Pan American Consultation on Cartography, sponsored by the Institute's Commission on Cartography, and actually held as a part of the larger program of the Assembly. The sessions of this first Assembly since America's participation in the war were of unusual interest. The Institute's Constitution calls for General Assemblies at intervals of approximately three years, but World War II made this impractical. There were, therefore, after the lapse of more than five years, many developments in the fields of geography and history to be considered. In addition to the scientific program, there was also scheduled for discussion at this Assembly an effective reorganization of the Institute by amendments to its constitution, which of course lent further significance to the meeting.

Unusual importance was also attached to this Third Consultation on Cartography. Although the Commission on Cartography had had two previous Consultations, one in September 1943 at Washington, D. C., and one in September 1944 at Rio de Janeiro, this was the first Consultation on cartographic matters held simultaneously with a General Assembly of the Institute. Moreover, the program of the Commission on Cartography, and the type

of organization by which it was carried out, has proved to be so effective that the Executive Committee of the Institute, meeting at Mexico City in April of this year, authorized the establishment of another Commission on Geography, and recommended that the Institute at its Caracas Assembly consider the establishment of a third Commission, on History, both modeled, in general, on the Commission on Cartography. As a result, the Institute now has three active Commissions.

For reasons such as the foregoing, the Caracas meetings aroused much interest, and attendance was both representative and large. All of the American Republics with the exception of Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, and Honduras were represented, and Canada participated by naming its diplomatic representative in Venezuela as delegate, and by sending technical reports on its mapping progress. Besides the twenty official delegations, some forty governmental organizations and scientific societies sent delegates, as did the United Nations and the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics.

In keeping with the interest and the importance of the sessions, the Organizing Committee of the Venezuelan Government, under the able chairmanship of Dr. Cristóbal L. Mendoza, did an outstanding job of preparation and organization. All meetings were held in the

Liceo Andrés Bello, a new building admirably adapted for the purpose and equipped not only with adequate auditorium for the plenary sessions, but with suitable rooms for meetings of the various sessions in cartography, geography and history and for the necessary business offices of the Secretariat and each of the National Delegations. The Organizing Committee also arranged and sponsored visits to the principal cartographic and geographic agencies of the Venezuelan Government, to the headquarters of the historical and anthropological societies and museums, and to historical buildings and sites in the Caracas area.

In addition to the foregoing visits of professional interest and to the social occasions, which were in most cases combined with them, the Organizing Committee is to be particularly congratulated upon the preparation of an historical atlas of Venezuelan maps which it caused to be distributed to delegates in attendance. This volume presents examples of cartography running from maps prepared by the early European explorers to those of more modern times. Since it makes available for the first time many rare and little known cartographic masterpieces, it constitutes not only a valuable contribution to the geography and history of Venezuela but also to those interested in these fields throughout the American Hemisphere.

In harmony with the importance of the two series of meetings, both the Venezuelan Government and the Institute made ample provision for reporting on the discussion sessions. The Organizing Committee of Venezuela provided recording equipment so that the remarks of all speakers participating in discussions were taken verbatim mechanically. In addition the Committee assigned reporters, competent in the respective fields, who

made notes and prepared a report of each of the various sessions, both of the Assembly and of the Consultation.

The program of the Assembly and Consultation was organized in four sections. The Institute's Division of Geography was represented by two sections, of which the first was, in general, physical geography. The sessions of the Third Consultation on Cartography accounted for most of the business of this first section on geography, with the addition of geological and geomorphological topics. The second section covered the balance of the field of geography. Although there has not, of course, been sufficient time yet for the Institute's newly created Commission on Geography to be fully organized, the sessions of this second section were presided over by Dr. Christovam Leite de Castro, of Brazil, Interim Chairman of the new Commission, and were utilized both for the scientific discussions and presentation of papers customarily brought out at such meetings, and also for the organization of the Commission and its program.

The Institute's Division of History similarly was represented by two sections of the Assembly, the first dealing with pre-Columbian history and the second with colonial and modern. The meetings of each of these sections were well attended and, as was the case in the meetings of the second section on geography, there was interest not only in the scientific contributions embodied in the papers and discussions, but in the proposed organization and program of the Institute's new Commission on History.

Of outstanding importance in the Caracas deliberations was the revision of the by-laws of the Institute's Constitution and the latter's effective reorganization in consequence of their adoption. This revision, which replaces in toto the previous by-laws, calls for the Institute to be composed

of the following organs: (a) General Assembly; (b) Governing Board; (c) Executive Committee; (d) Commissions and their Committees; (e) National Sections; and (f) General Secretariat.

The following is a synopsis of the new organization:

(1) New orientation of the Institute's activities through active Commissions in the major fields, each Member State having one representative on each Commission;

(2) Active National Sections in each of the Member States composed of the national representatives on the Commissions;

(3) A Governing Board composed of the President and two Vice-Presidents of the Institute, as elected by the Assembly, and of the Chairmen of the National Sections, thus providing uniform representation of all Member States;

(4) An Executive Committee, composed of the officers of the Institute and the Chairmen of the Commissions, which under the policy guidance of the Assembly and of the Governing Board, exercises general supervision over the Institute's activities in the interims between Assemblies.

(5) A General Secretariat at the Mexico City seat to provide a focal point of all operations, to serve the various organs and to assist in the coordination of their activities.

According to the new by-laws, which were adopted unanimously by all the delegations present at the Assembly, the National Section in any nation is composed of that nation's member on each of the existing Commissions of the Institute. These select from their number a chairman, who thereupon becomes a member of the Institute's Board of Governors. The Governing Board is presided over by the President of the Institute and has as ex-officio members also the First and Second Vice-Presidents of the Institute. The President of the Institute is also Honorary Chairman of the Executive Committee. This Committee is further composed of the Chairmen of the Institute's Commissions, plus the First and Second Vice-Presidents of the Institute. The First Vice-President is the Chairman, and the

Second Vice-President acts in his absence.

The Assembly elected the following officers of the Institute: Dr. José Carlos de Macedo Soares, of Brazil, President; Mr. Robert H. Randall, of the United States, First Vice-President; and General Eduardo Zubía, of Uruguay, Second Vice-President. They will hold office until the next Assembly.

Dr. Pedro C. Sánchez, who has been the Director of the Institute since its establishment in 1929, and the principal driving force in its program, was again designated Director, but provision is made for a Secretary General to be appointed by the Executive Committee, together with such additional staff as the Committee may consider necessary. In deference to Dr. Sánchez' distinguished service it was voted, by acclamation, that he should retain the title of Director, and that this title should never be conferred upon anyone else. This provides for the transition stipulated by the new by-laws, and will, at a future date, place the headquarters staff of the Institute in Mexico City under the direction of the Secretary General.

In accordance with the decision of the Institute's Executive Committee in its Mexico City meetings last April, the offer of Brazil to sponsor a new Commission on Geography in its initial period was accepted. This procedure followed the general pattern set by the Commission on Cartography which was sponsored and principally financed by the United States during the first three years of its existence.

A considerable interest was naturally evident as to what nation's offer to sponsor the proposed Commission on History, in its initial stage, would be accepted. After much discussion in meetings of the chiefs of delegations, Mexico was selected. Specifically, the National Institute of Anthropology and History will, for the Govern-

ment of Mexico, assume this responsibility. Dr. Silvio Zavala, representative of that Institute, as well as Interim Director of the Chapultepec Museum, Mexico City, and since its initiation in 1938, Director of the *Revista de Historia de America* of the Institute, took a leading part in these discussions. Venezuela requested and received Assembly authorization to sponsor the activities of a Special Committee of the new Commission to deal with the collection and publication of independence era data. A similar request by Argentina, which offered to sponsor another Committee of the new Commission, dealing with the collection of data and documentation pertinent to the History of the Americas, also received Assembly approval.

To meet the financial requirements of the Institute's enlarged activities the Assembly decided to continue national quota payments upon the same basis as the present, pending discussion and presumably decision on this matter in the forthcoming meeting of the Ninth International Conference of American States at Bogotá in 1947, but to advise the American nations that additional financial support is indispensable for the program of each of the three Commissions. In practical and immediate terms this means that the Institute will advise each nation that, in accordance with the policy adopted at the Rio de Janeiro Consultation, 1944, it should provide currently its existing annual quota for the operation of the Institute itself, plus an equal amount for the support of the Commission on Cartography, and that after a period of initial support of two or perhaps three years, by Brazil in the instance of the Commission on Geography, and by Mexico in that of the Commission on History, additional financial support in like amounts will be requested for each of these two Commissions. It was generally agreed in discus-

sions on this matter that there should be no change in the formula by which quotas and other payments are determined until action thereon is taken at Bogotá.

The Commission on Cartography, being already organized to a degree not yet attained by the new Commissions on Geography and History, held eleven discussion meetings. Previous to convening in these sessions the members of the Commission had submitted uniformly prepared reports on the progress of surveying and mapping activities in their respective nations, for the period which had elapsed since the Second Consultation at Rio de Janeiro in 1944. This made it possible for those attending to discuss such matters as standards, specifications, and new methods. As a result, uniform specifications for geodetic surveying, for topographic mapping, and for aeronautical charts were adopted by all the nations represented. These will undoubtedly be useful not only because maps produced by various nations will be better understood because of their uniformity of specifications, but because adjoining nations may cooperate to advantage in projects along their common borders.

In respect to aeronautical charts the specifications for the so-called one-million scale chart had been agreed upon at the Second Consultation and were adopted later by the Provisional International Civil Aviation Organization. These were, of course, left unchanged, and specifications covering other series of charts on various scales were adopted. It was also unanimously recommended that the headquarters of the Institute serve as the central point for the exchange of the aeronautical charts produced by the various Member States. Steps were also taken and procedures outlined for the regular publication and exchange, as between the aeronautical services of the Americas, of a

*Guide for Pilots* similar to the hydrographic *Guide for Mariners*.

Besides recommendations concerning the exchange of hydrographic charts and the use of electronic methods and instrumentation in surveying operations, perhaps the most important action in this field was that recommending that the various American nations having navigable waters but hitherto no hydrographic services proceed to the establishment of such services at the earliest practicable moment.

The Commission on Cartography, with the approval of the Institute, accepted the invitation of the Government of Argentina to hold its Fourth Consultation in Buenos Aires in 1947. At the Second Consultation in Rio de Janeiro, the Argentine Delegation had expressed the wish of that Government to be host to the Third Consultation. However, because of the desirability of combining the Third Consultation with the Fourth General Assembly, which since 1941 had been set

for Caracas, the Argentine invitation was not pressed. As stated above, this invitation was graciously renewed at Caracas and unanimously accepted.

The Government of Chile extended an invitation for the Fifth General Assembly of the Institute to be held in Santiago in 1950. This was also accepted unanimously. The date is in accord with the new by-laws which call for Assemblies at four-year intervals, and Consultations of the various Commissions at intervals of one to two years. At the time of the Santiago Assembly, the Institute's Commissions will hold Consultations also, and the Assembly program will be organized upon that basis. It is likely, however, that before the next Assembly not only the Commission on Cartography but one or both of the other two Commissions will meet in their respective Consultations. Approval for such a meeting to be held in 1948 has already been given to the Commission on Geography.



# Monument to the Good Neighbor Policy

TERU and MIGUEL A. DE QUEVEDO

MEXICO, so prodigal in splendid expressions of art, especially in sculpture and painting, has been centering its attention on an event of undeniable importance to all America. This was the competition and exhibition of designs for the Monument to the Good Neighbor Policy, which were held not long ago in Mexico City. The monument will be erected in Monterrey in accordance with a decision of General Ávila Camacho, the President of Mexico, to pay tribute to the doctrines and achievements of that great leader, the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It will be recalled that the two statesmen held a memorable meeting in Monterrey.

Under the conditions of the competition, the monument was to consist not of a single structure, but of a series.

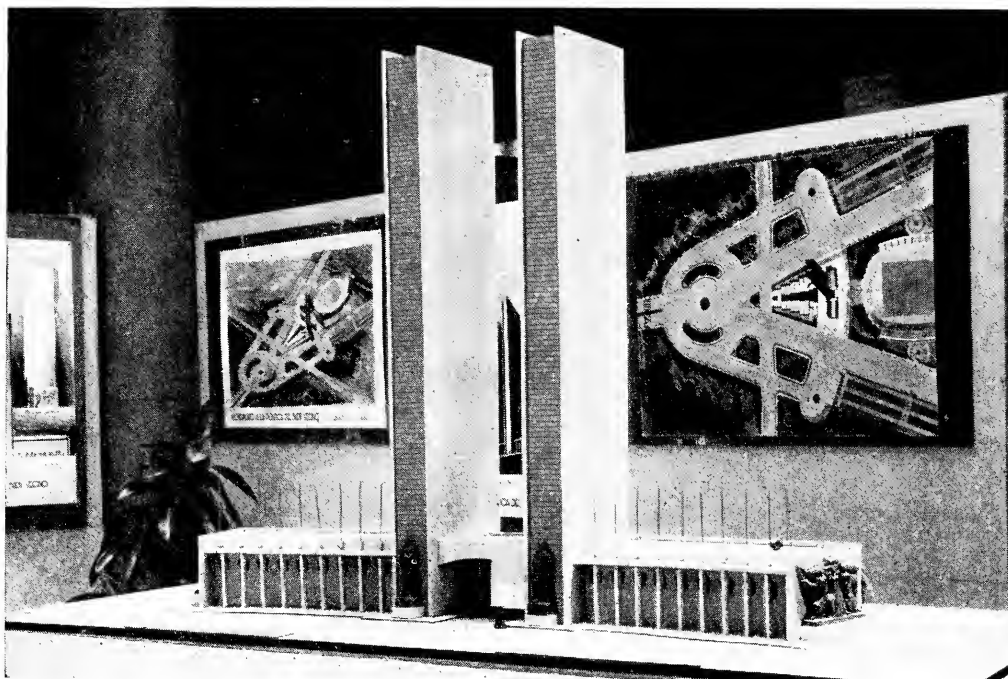
Five projects were presented, each the combined work of an architect and a sculptor. They were submitted by Mario Pani, architect, and Ignacio Asúnsulo, sculptor; Augusto Pérez, architect, and Luis Ortiz M., sculptor; Alonso Mariscal, architect, and Juan Cruz, sculptor; Mauricio Gómez M., architect, and Tamariz, sculptor; and Eduardo Méndez Ll., architect, and Guillermo Ruiz, sculptor. The design of the last pair was chosen by the committee.

Prominent bankers, businessmen, and



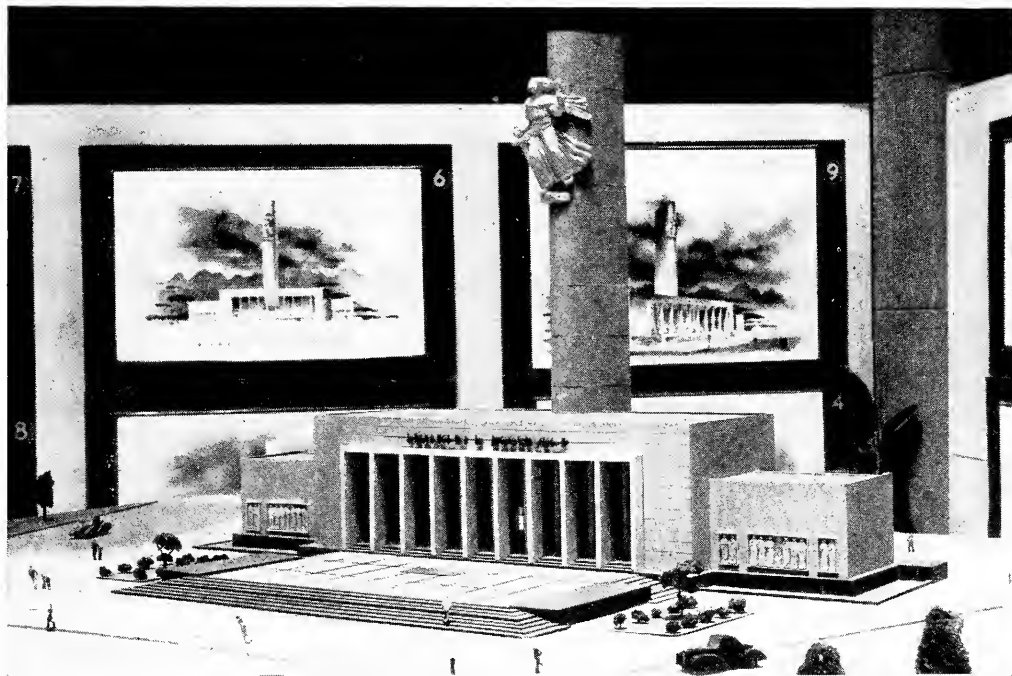
Courtesy of Miguel A. de Quevedo N.

DESIGN OF EDUARDO MÉNDEZ, ARCHITECT, AND GUILLERMO RUIZ, SCULPTOR  
(FIRST PRIZE)



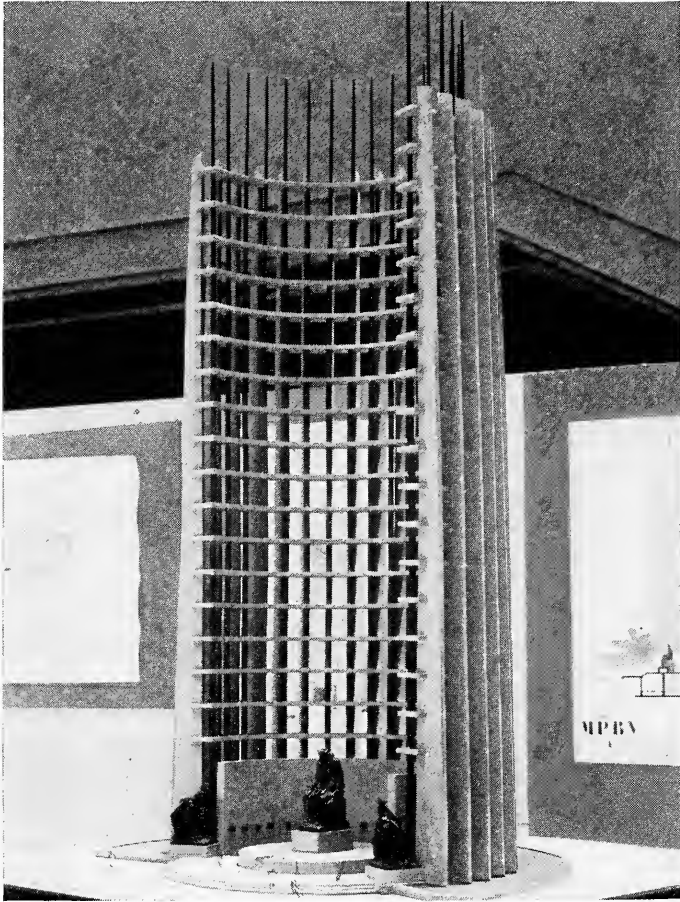
Courtesy of Miguel A. de Quevedo N.

DESIGN OF ALONSO MARISCAL, ARCHITECT, AND JUAN CRUZ, SCULPTOR



Courtesy of Miguel A. de Quevedo N.

DESIGN OF AUGUSTO PÉREZ P., ARCHITECT, AND LUIS ORTIZ M., SCULPTOR



Courtesy of Miguel A. de Quevedo N.

DESIGN OF MARIO PANI, ARCHITECT, AND IGNACIO  
ASÚNSOLO, SCULPTOR

officials connected with the Mexican Government are sponsoring the monument committee. The technical advisers who chose the prize-winning plan were Lorenzo Fabela, J. Luis Cuevas, and Carlos Obregón S., architects; Lorenzo Rafael, sculptor; and Justino Fernández, internationally known art critic.

The monument will stand on a line bisecting the acute angle formed by the intersection of the Reynosa and San Pedro Highways. The façade and chief entrances will look toward the city of Monterrey.

In front of the monument will be a great esplanade and a stairway about sixteen feet high. On each side of the stairway will rise a lofty parapet reflected at the side in pools of water. The principal mass of the monument is an enormous wall one hundred twenty-five feet high, vertical in front and sloping in back; it will be faced with metal. In front is a vigorous sculptured group symbolizing President Roosevelt guiding the Four Freedoms, the names of which will be inscribed on the wall. On either side of the sculptured group is an entrance to the exhibit galleries, library,



museum, and the enormous hall, from which leads a magnificent stairway flanked by statues of Miguel Hidalgo and George Washington. The crypt directly under this hall will contain a frieze of mourning women impressive in its simplicity, each figure symbolizing one of the countries of the Western Hemisphere. Here too will be niches for urns containing earth from the countries members of the Pan American Union. On the top of the monument will be a terrace reached by an elevator.

The project is completed by a stadium having a capacity of fifteen thousand spectators. It will be surrounded by gardens and by other attractions for those interested in sports. To cope with the continuous traffic on the adjacent highways and provide for the entrance of cars to the monument grounds, it is planned to have underpasses and cloverleaf turns.

The construction will cost about \$800,000 and will be begun as soon as definite plans are prepared.



Courtesy of Miguel A. de Quevedo N.

DESIGN OF MAURICIO GÓMEZ MAYORGA, ARCHITECT, AND TAMARIZ, SCULPTOR

# Inter-American Conference on Cooperatives

*Bogotá, June 20-26, 1946*

FERNANDO CHAVES NÚÑEZ

*Division of Labor and Social Information, Pan American Union*

AT the call of the Colombian Government, there was held at Bogotá last June the first Inter-American Conference on Cooperatives. Delegates from Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Panama, and the United States assembled for this important event. Furthermore, representatives were sent by the National Bank of Costa Rica, the Bolivian Cooperative Union, the Venezuelan Center of Cooperative Studies, the University of Puerto Rico, the Colombian cooperatives, some of the Colombian universities, and the Pan American Union.

The opening address was made by the then Minister of Labor and Social Welfare of Colombia, Dr. Adán Arriaga Andrade, who expressed his fervent faith in the cooperative movement and his gratification at the progress made in his country. He stated that in 1945 Colombian cooperatives had more than 58,000 members and a capital of more than twelve million pesos,<sup>1</sup> while they transacted business to the value of sixty-seven million.

The primary purpose of the Conference was to discuss a method of organizing and financing the Inter-American School of Cooperative Orientation. When the meetings began, a brief analysis of the different forms of the cooperative movement in the United States, in Uruguay, and in other parts of Latin America was made. It was recalled that in Latin America cooperatives have had the advantage of able

leaders and that they have been founded and developed chiefly by the respective governments. Notwithstanding this valuable backing, little if any attention has been given to education in the theory of cooperatives, a mistake which has resulted in weakening and destroying a number of undertakings.

Recognizing the fact that the organization of cooperatives and the knowledge of the theory behind this movement should go hand in hand, delegates to the Conference described the enormous effort that has been made in Latin America to create centers and institutes for the study of such theory and recounted the struggle to introduce the study of cooperatives into elementary and secondary schools and into universities.

To explain the antecedents of the proposed School of Cooperative Orientation, the factors leading to its inception were described. Due praise was given to the excellent work performed by the Institute of Cooperative Studies of Cauca University at Popayán, Colombia, which, from the time of its foundation, preached the interchange of ideas, administrative practices, and students between Latin America and the United States. This suggestion was approved by the first Bolivarian Cooperative Conference held at Popayán in January 1944. As soon as the results of this meeting, especially its resolutions on education and cooperation, were fully

<sup>1</sup> *The Colombian peso equals \$.57.*



Courtesy of Fernando Chaves Núñez

#### SOME OF THE DELEGATES TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON COOPERATIVES

Left to right: Sr. Oscar Chaves Esquivel, delegate of the National Bank of Costa Rica; Sr. Gastón Baquero, delegate of the Government of Cuba; Fernando Chaves Núñez, delegate of the Pan American Union; Dr. Antonio Fabra Ribas, Director of the Institute of Cooperative Studies of Cauca University, Colombia; Srta. Ofelia Hooper, delegate of the Government of Panama; Dr. Jorge Guevara, Superintendent of Colombian Cooperatives; and Sr. Alberto Durán Rocha, delegate of the Government of Costa Rica.

known, leaders in the cooperative movement in the United States invited the Institute of Cooperative Studies to send a group to visit cooperatives in the United States and attend the National Congress of the Cooperative League held at Chicago in September 1944. Upon the return of this group, it presented a valuable report, in which the importance of placing cooperative education on a continental plane was emphasized.

The leaders of the cooperative program in Latin America tried to put this great ambition into practice, but lacking sufficient funds they were unable to do so. New hope, however, was given by the journey to the United States of Dr. Antonio Fabra Ribas, Director of the aforementioned Institute of Cooperative Studies, in 1945. He was requested to begin negotiations with cooperative leaders in the United States for help in sending

students to this country. At the time he was able to obtain only moral support for the plan, and some advantages generously offered by the University of Kansas City. These facilities were accepted by the Colombian Government, which promised to pay the traveling expenses of ten outstanding men in the cooperative field. This decision stimulated the powerful Consumers' Cooperative Association of Kansas City to search for a formula by which the United States cooperatives would help financially in bringing Latin American students to this country. The steps taken by this organization and the efforts of some Latin American leaders in the cooperative movement took shape in an agreement which set forth definitely how the traveling expenses of the students would be met and just what training they would receive.

Thus the Inter-American School of Co-



Courtesy of Dr. A. Fabra Ribas

#### INTER-AMERICAN SCHOOL OF COOPERATIVE ORIENTATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Professors and students with the Superintendent of Cooperatives of Colombia and the coordinator of the School for Latin America. Standing, left to right: Mr. Crane, Professor of English; Dr. Jorge Guevara, Superintendent of Colombian Cooperatives; Merlin G. Miller, Director of Education of the Consumers' Cooperative Association of Kansas City; and Dr. Antonio Fabra Ribas, Coordinator of the School for Latin America. In the group of students are several Cubans and Colombians, a Peruvian and a Venezuelan. Seated with them are Dr. Hodges, Professor of Economics, and Karl Breuer, foreign service officer on detail to the Division of International Labor, Social and Health Affairs, of the Department of State, to work on cooperatives.

operative Orientation began to assume definite form. Nevertheless, it was necessary for the Latin American countries also to give financial support. The Government of Colombia set the example, promising to send ten students a year to the United States, and authorizing its National Cooperative Bureau to summon the First Inter-American Conference on Cooperatives, which, as has been said, was held in June at Bogotá.

When the delegates had been fully informed on these antecedents of the School they began to discuss its development. With regard to the character that it should have, the Conference voted as follows:

The Inter-American School should have the character of an enterprise or institution formed by the union and the contributions of the countries participating in this Conference and of all those who participate in subsequent conferences, with the effective collaboration of the Consumers' Cooperative Association of Kansas City, which will act as the first center.

The School will have an administrative council appointed at each Inter-American Conference on Cooperatives. Said council will prepare the by-laws, courses of study, and outline of activities, and will take the steps necessary to include in the institution the largest number of American countries possible and to open branches of the Institute in different parts of the continent.

Another aspect of the Inter-American School to which the Conference paid par-

ticular attention was the influence it would have on the development and technical standards of the cooperative movement in America. In this connection it was agreed that the school should not confine itself to turning out experts with a rigid educational standard, but that the standard should be flexible and should take into account the economic, social, juridical, and political aspects of each country. It was likewise recommended that the School should not fail to devote attention to the problems of American nations in their local as well as their international ramifications.

The most difficult problem attacked by the Conference was the financing of the School, since continuing support from the various American countries is essential to its permanence. Fortunately the problem was quickly solved by Dr. Jorge Guevara, Superintendent of Colombian Cooperatives, who announced to the Conference delegates that his government was offering as its initial contribution the sum of 50,000 pesos, and that it would keep its promise to send ten cooperative students annually to the United States. This announcement guaranteed the success of the Conference, and what is even more important, stimulated other countries to offer financial support to the School. The Bolivian delegate promised to send word of his country's contribution and of the number of fellowships it would offer. Costa Rica offered two fellowships and an initial amount of \$1,000, and Cuba four fellowships and \$5,000. The United States will hand down

its decision through the Department of State; Venezuela will announce its contribution as soon as possible. Panama granted ten fellowships and will add a sum of money, while Guatemala offered two fellowships and will decide later on the amount of its appropriation.

The resolutions passed by the Conference concerning the Inter-American School of Orientation were not definitive. Its administrative structure and courses of study will be fixed by the next Conference, which will take place at Habana in September 1947. The school will be located at the University of Kansas City, since that institution offered the most facilities.

The Inter-American School of Cooperative Orientation is today a wonderful reality for the youth of Latin America. Its courses began last July. In attendance there are twelve Colombians, one Venezuelan, one Peruvian, and three Cubans. All students from any country contributing to the financial support of the school or granting fellowships will be eligible for entrance. This school will be of great importance for the nations of the Western Hemisphere, for it will train the leaders of a cooperative movement based on tested and accepted principles. Furthermore, it will be an influential factor in international relations, for, as was said at the Conference, the historical sense of union, accentuated in the recent months of war, imposes the obligations of bringing the countries of America ever closer together through mutual consideration, friendship, and service.

# Venezuela Attacks the Housing Problem

FRANCIS VIOLICH

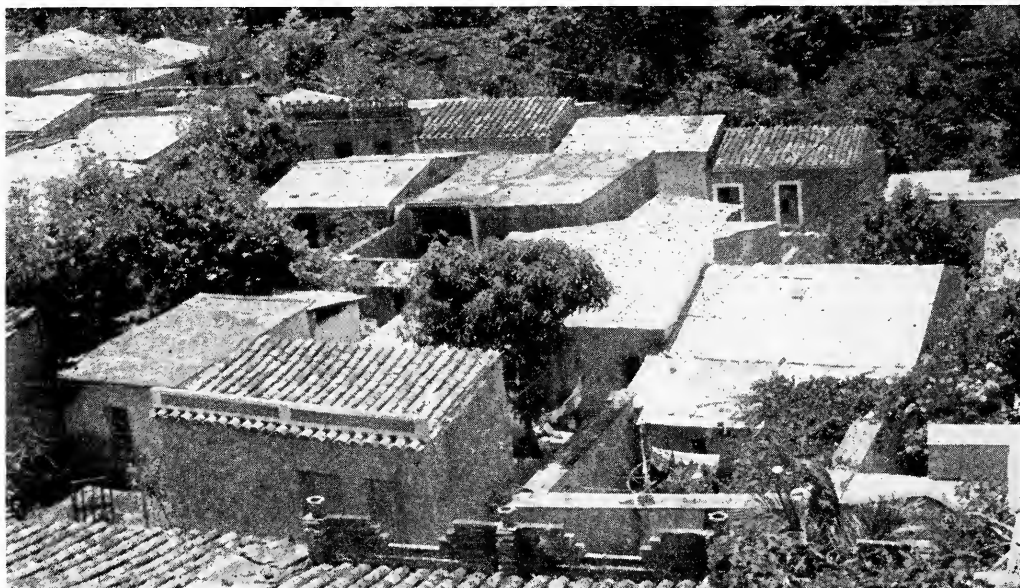
*Housing Research Assistant, Division of Labor and Social Information, Pan American Union*

HOUSING in Venezuela—as in all countries—is an integral part of the economy and the social pattern. To understand the extent of the problems we must look a little deeper than the surface of shacks and shanties. Urban growth began in Venezuela before the turn of the century and was speeded by the development of oil some twenty-five years ago; with that growth came an increased housing problem. In 1873 the population of the country was only 1,784,194; by 1940 this figure had more than doubled, reaching 3,951,371. Between these years the city of Caracas grew from 81,565 to 266,706, more than three fold. The capital grew almost twice as fast as the republic as a whole.

About sixty-seven percent of the population of Caracas is made up of workers or low-income white-collar employees; yet during the past ten years practically all construction has been for the remaining thirty-three percent of the people. Every *quebrada* (canyon) is filled with shacks and shanties, many of which are newly built.

Yet a tremendous building boom is now going on within only a few blocks of the *quebradas*. Many of the inhabitants of shanties are working on building construction. In July 1944 construction in Caracas amounted to 4,702,000 bolívars;<sup>1</sup> in July 1945, to 13,112,000 bolívars; and in October 1945, to 16,000,000 bolívars. Construction workers are continuing to

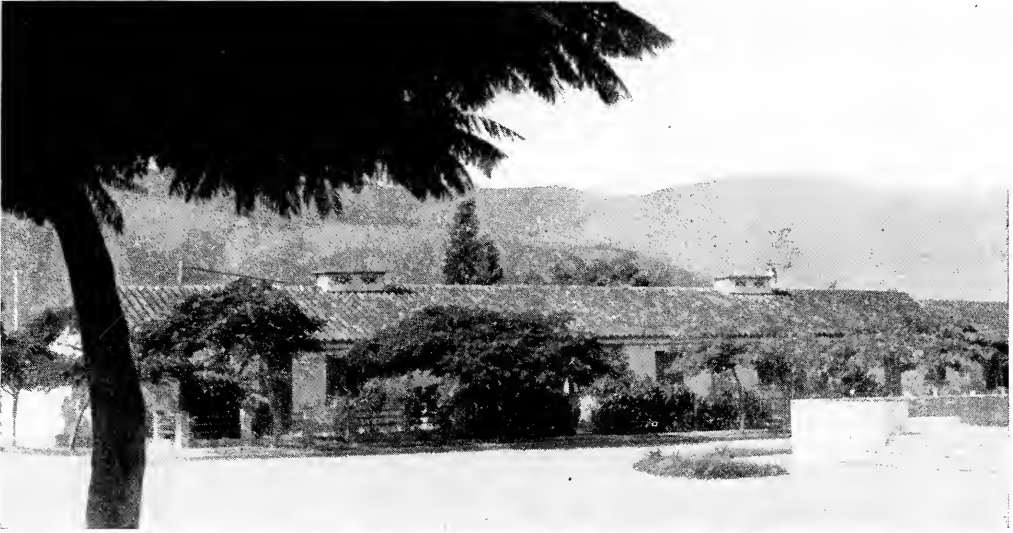
<sup>1</sup> *The Venezuelan bolívar is equal to \$0.33.*



Photograph by Francis Violich

## HOUSING IN A CARACAS RAVINE

The government is striving to do away with crowded, insanitary housing conditions.



Photographs by Francis Violich

## ROW HOUSE PROJECTS IN CARACAS

Above: Pro Patria. Below: Lidice.

come from the interior of the country to find jobs. This current building boom started with the death of Gómez in 1935 when large quantities of public money—100,000,000 bolívars in 1935 and 1936—were spent for hospitals, schools, highways, sewers, etc. This was followed by a surge of subdivision of the large sugar cane

haciendas of which there were nine in the immediate Caracas area in 1935; today there is but one left. These subdivisions are known as *urbanizaciones* and still carry the name of the old hacienda; among them are Urbanizaciones San Bernardino, La Florida, and Altamira. Many of them are as well planned and luxuriously developed



as any of the good residential suburbs to be found in the United States.

In 1934 Caracas was erecting 60 buildings per year; in 1939 that figure had increased to 1800 per year. Practically all of this was upper-income housing. At the present time the building boom is chiefly supplying the city with modern office buildings, hotels, and some apartment houses.

Studies made by the Labor Bank (Banco Obrero) show that the marked increase in the growth of population in the cities has been due chiefly to migration from agricultural areas to employment centers, especially those of the petroleum industry. Some of the findings of the Banco are interesting: During the past ten years Caracas grew 62 percent; of this growth 37 percent was migratory and 25 percent from normal increase. Barquisimeto, a commercial center for a large sugarcane area, grew 94 percent, with 66 percent being migratory. Maracay, a center for live stock and a small amount of industry, grew

no more than 21 percent; only one percent of this was migratory. Likewise, Cumaná, Ciudad Bolívar, and Valencia had very small increases. The greatest growth took place in Puerto de la Cruz with an increase from 1,879 in 1936 to 18,000 in 1946—a growth of 860 percent, due almost entirely to sudden expansion of the oil industry there. Barinas, now being explored for new oil resources, grew 272 percent, most of which was from migration. Cabimas, a petroleum center, doubled in size during the ten-year period, about three-quarters of the increase being due to migration. Maturín grew 82 percent, with 62 percent of this growth due to migration.

For the whole group of fifteen cities studied by the Labor Bank there has been a 60 percent increase in population, with 36 percent due to migration.

The present government of Venezuela believes it must solve the housing problem since it is an obvious source of social unrest and social injustice. The government is making maximum use of the Labor Bank,



Photograph by Francis Violich

#### BELLA VISTA

Each small house in this development has its own garden.

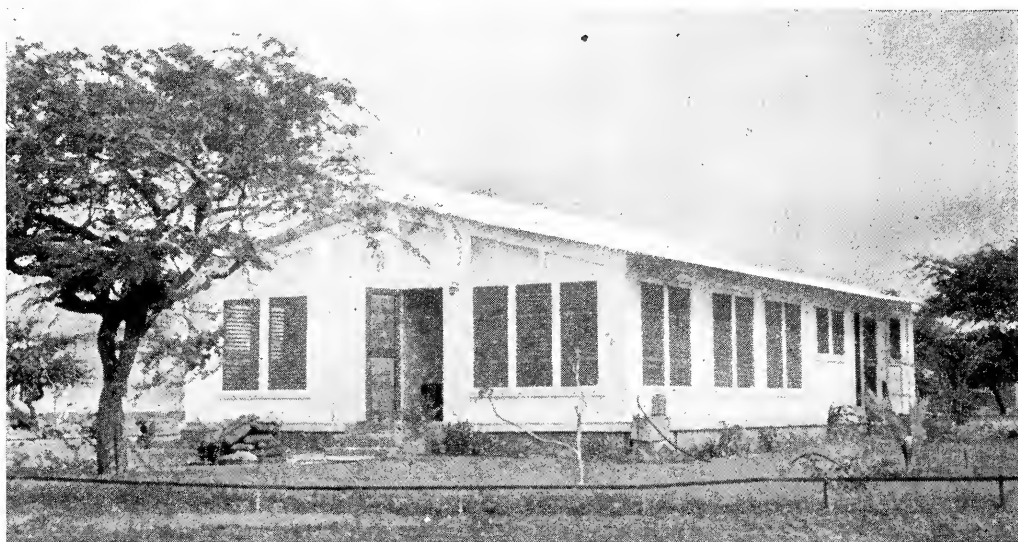




Photographs by Francis Violich

### EL SILENCIO

Two views of a large middle-class housing development in Caracas. Touches of color on the balconies add to its attractiveness.



Photographs by Francis Violich

#### HOUSING AT MARACAIBO

Above: Part of a thousand-unit government project (Urbanización General Urdaneta), in which color brightens the blinds, louvers, and roof. Below: A house for a member of the staff of the Richmond Petroleum Corporation.

which was established in 1927 with a capital of 6,000,000 bolívars for the purpose of making loans for private construction of workers' housing. Since 1938 the Banco has built about 900 units in small projects

in and around Caracas, chiefly for middle-income rather than workers' families.

One of the largest of these is the Pro-Patria development. Here 317 dwellings were built and sold to workers for 9,000

bolívares each on small monthly payments. The project includes a community house called the Casa del Obrero, shops, church, plaza, post office, dispensary, and children's playground. Workers in this project earn about 350 bolívares per month. An addition of several hundred dwellings for this project is now being planned by the Labor Bank.

Another project built by the Bank in Caracas is Bella Vista, consisting of 166 houses, 22 apartments and 10 stores. Among other developments are San Agustín del Sur, 200 dwellings; Los Jardines, 72 dwellings; and Agua Salud, 95 dwellings.

Outside of Caracas the Bank has built 400 houses at Puerto Cabello and small groups of houses at San Cristóbal, Cumaná, Carúpano, Valencia, Maracaibo and Barquisimeto. Throughout the country the Bank now has under its jurisdiction 1,669 dwellings.

This does not include El Silencio, the Bank's greatest slum clearance effort, completed in Caracas two years ago. This project includes 760 apartments at me-

dium rent, from 100 to 190 bolívares per month.

Some six blocks of slums were demolished and the whole area completely rebuilt, allowing generous space standards. The slum area was formerly one of the worst in the city. It covered an area of 22.5 acres. Involved in the demolition were 1,972 living quarters; among these, 1,132 were occupied by houses of ill-fame, by rooming houses, or by retail liquor distributors. This neighborhood contained 465 cases of tuberculosis and 2,327 cases of venereal disease.

The new apartment buildings are designed in large block units with interior playgrounds. All frontage on the streets is used for shops on the ground floor; there is a total of 200 shops. Most of the apartments have balconies on the street side; all have large porches for both service and outdoor living overlooking the inside courts. Color has been used effectively on the iron rails of the balconies, on the Venetian blinds and at doorways. Architectural design combines colonial and modern elements in an original



Photograph by Francis Violich

#### AT LA SALINA

The Creole Oil Company provides these houses for its intermediate workers.

fashion giving the project a pleasing individuality.

When the project was being planned its critics said that the top floors would never be rented, that the Venezuelans were not accustomed to living in apartments or walking up four flights of stairs. The total of 98,000 applications for the 760 apartments disproved this belief. These top apartments are today among the most successful. The total cost of El Silencio was about \$20,000,000, of which \$2,000,000 was loaned by the Export-Import Bank of Washington.

A project even larger than El Silencio is now under construction in Maracaibo. This is known as Urbanización General Urdaneta; it is a row-house development comprising 1000 dwelling units occupying about 100 acres. Use of the super-block principle has made it possible to reduce streets to a minimum of thirteen percent of the area. Community facilities include a church, school, library, and commercial center. Each dwelling has a total floor space of about 75 square meters and each is oriented to take advantage of the prevailing winds. Dwelling units can be purchased on a payment plan of 200 bolívares down and 48 bolívares per month for 15 years. It is estimated that this project will meet about 25 percent of the housing need of Maracaibo.

The present program of the Banco Obrero includes the construction of 40,000 houses throughout the country over a period of ten years and calls for the expenditure of about \$9,000,000 per year. The necessity for homes is shown by the 12,283 applications on file. Construction is being apportioned to 13 of the principal cities according to need. Of the 4,000 houses to be built during the coming year only 1000 are scheduled for Caracas, in spite of the great need there. The reasoning behind this decision is that

great amounts of building in the capital will only attract more workers. The Bank's planning studies anticipate a maximum population of 800,000 for Caracas, about twice that at present. The policy of the Bank is to develop the building industry in the capitals of the various states, and thus relieve the concentration of economic activity and population in Caracas.

The Labor Bank has laid out its national program for housing construction based on the percentage of substandard dwellings in each capital, the number of persons affected, the industrial importance of the town, and its capacity for construction.

The Bank is now formulating plans for the establishment of a National Institute of Housing in order to make possible a broader attack on the housing problem. Accordingly low-cost housing might then be subsidized (it is not at present) and more middle-class housing built. The present plan for organization of the Institute is based on Argentine and Chilean housing agencies with certain proposals taken from the British system for providing public housing. Plans are also under way for the holding of the First Venezuelan Housing Conference.

The various petroleum companies have built an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 units in the oil "camps" existing in connection with wells or refineries. The largest group of these camps is across Lake Maracaibo from the city of the same name. All structures must be built in accordance with requirements of the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance; these establish standards for water supply, protection against mosquitoes and rodents, minimum space per person, and fire prevention. The dwellings in the oil camps are far better than the housing supplied by the workers themselves in their home com-

munities, in that they have running water, electricity, concrete floors, toilets, showers, and kerosene stoves. However, they could be made more attractive and appealing from the point of view of domestic architecture. The workers, through their camp committees and trade unions (there are 30,000 in the petroleum workers' union) are urging the use of a more domestic-styled dwelling unit. A new town for 10,000 persons is now being planned in connection with a new refinery on Paraguaná peninsula. The camps are provided with good schools. Other community facilities are clubhouses, markets,

churches, cooperative stores, and restaurants. The supply of housing in most of the camps is inadequate to meet the need and only about forty to fifty percent of the workers actually live within camp housing. The remainder live in slum and shack towns which have grown up around the fringes of the oil developments.

Recognizing the extensive housing problem in Venezuela, the relatively small amount of low-cost housing that has been built to date, and the undercurrents of unrest, the program of the present government and other trends indicate a desire to change and improve the situation.



Photograph by Francis Violich

**GOOD VENEZUELAN HOUSING HELPS  
MAKE HAPPY CHILDREN**



Courtesy of Institute of Inter-American Affairs

#### BETTER WOOL IN PERU

Peruvian farmers have been trained under a cooperative program to choose better breeding stock.



# United States Program of Scientific and Cultural Cooperation with Other American Republics

EDGAR B. BROSSARD

*Member, United States Tariff Commission and the Commission's Representative on the  
Executive Committee of The Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation*

## Part II

*Representatives of the Interdepartmental Committee made recent inspection trip to seven countries*

UNTIL this spring few of the respective agencies had sent representatives other than the field men themselves to visit the cooperating foreign countries and examine, on the ground, the progress of the individual projects of their own respective agencies. Most departments have relied chiefly on reports from the individuals in the field in the various foreign countries carrying out their respective cooperative projects. However, in 1941 a subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee of the United States House of Representatives made quite an extended tour of inspection of these projects in Latin America, and last spring the Executive Committee of the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation decided it would be a good thing to have a member of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director of the Committee, and the Assistant Director and Planning Analyst of the Committee go into some of the foreign countries and examine at first hand the progress and present status of some of these cooperative projects in order to aid in allocation of funds and in planning new projects for

the future. Consequently, I, as a member of the Executive Committee, representing the Tariff Commission, Dr. Raymund L. Zwemer, Executive Director of the Committee, and Olcott H. Deming, Planning Analyst, were sent on this quick airplane trip of inspection and evaluation from April 14 to May 29, 1946.

It was thought unnecessary on this first trip of the Committee's administrative personnel to visit all 20 of the cooperating Latin American countries or to observe all the individual projects. However, the trip did include 7 countries—Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, and Cuba—as more or less representative of countries and projects in the program.

### *Many cooperative projects inspected*

In each of these countries projects were visited by our group. They were also discussed with the United States personnel working at the projects and responsible for them, with the United States Embassy or consular staff, with the personnel of each country working on the projects, and with the top officials of that country who initiated the cooperation or who have had or who now have some responsibility for their government's part in the cooperative proj-

ects. In most countries also, as many as possible of those who in years past have participated in any of the cooperative programs were interviewed to ascertain their present feeling and attitude about these and other projects of the program. An attempt was made also to learn how wide publicity had been given to these cooperative projects and what the reaction of the general public was to this cooperation with the United States.

*Projects are accomplishing their objectives*

In general, the cooperative program has been quite successful in promoting more friendly feelings and cooperative relations between the United States and each of the countries visited. The government officials, both our own foreign-mission personnel and those of the cooperating foreign

countries, are strongly in favor of these scientific and cultural cooperative projects. We saw and heard about many specific evidences of desirable fruits from them.

*Scientific and technical projects increase in value as data accumulate*

Naturally some projects are more conspicuous than others, and some, especially the long-time research projects, are continuing in a friendly and sympathetic atmosphere with hopes for the future practical application of the results favorably affecting the economy and well-being of each country. A good example of this type of research is the United States Department of Agriculture's experimental program to develop complementary agricultural crops (crops not commercially grown in the United States such as rub-



Courtesy of Department of State

THE BRAZILIAN-UNITED STATES CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN SÃO PAULO

"Such institutes serve as community gathering places for the teaching of English, as reading rooms and circulating libraries for United States books and periodicals, and as social centers for lectures, music and art exhibits, and other similar activities."





Courtesy of Department of State

## VENEZUELAN WORKERS ARE EAGER TO STUDY ENGLISH

ber, cinchona, pyrethrum, derris root, and kenaf) and to develop better food crops and livestock needed for a more stable economy and a larger, more varied, and better balanced food supply.

A conspicuous example of a project that becomes more valuable with age is the weather data which the Weather Bureau of the United States Department of Commerce is cooperating in obtaining and making available to all countries. These data have not only a current but also a cumulative value in forecasting; they may help to save lives from hurricanes, airplane wrecks, and shipwrecks, as well as millions of dollars' worth of property.

The tidal, magnetic, and seismological observation programs of the Coast and Geodetic Survey also have great present and future value, but the cumulative data

will have greater value for all countries of the Americas.

Think also of the present and especially the possible future usefulness of the cooperative programs sponsored by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of Interior. In one of its projects this Service is surveying fresh-water fish resources and stocking streams and lakes with the most useful and most practically adaptable fishes for food for each source of supply and providing for their maintenance by conservation, breeding, and restocking from hatcheries. Perhaps eventually the United States may cooperate in making a deep-sea survey of fish and other marine resources off the east and west coasts of North, Central, and South America. Out of this survey may come a satisfactory mutual cooperative under-

standing about fishing in these waters and increasing and preserving those resources, thus furnishing a more adequate, better balanced, and more reliable food supply for the people of all the countries of America.

The United States Geological Survey has joined with several countries in investigations of their mineral resources by detailing experts to collaborate with scientists designated by those countries in developing data on deposits, especially of strategic and critical minerals and other resources for government and private use.

The United States Bureau of Mines has detailed experts to help develop better mining and metallurgical methods and to reduce costs of production and marketing of minerals needed for fullest development of the Western Hemisphere.

These illustrations could be multiplied manyfold from the list of scientific research projects. Nor does that list cover all the cooperative projects carried on. Others are not research projects, but their value extends far into the future and spreads out like a fan.

*Exchange of special information; technical and other literature translated*

A Subcommittee of the Interdepartmental Committee selects the best and most appropriate books, reports, pamphlets, and bulletins of an educational, informational, or technical nature issued by the United States Government and refers them to the Central Translating Division of the Department of State for translation into Spanish, Portuguese, and French for distribution in the countries of the Western Hemisphere where these languages are spoken. Money is also provided from funds of the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation for the purchase of books either translated

into these languages from English or from them into English. By means of this small, temporary subsidy, many of the leading American textbooks and bulletins on medicine, anatomy, surgery, health and sanitation, child care, prenatal care, mathematics, physics, chemistry, engineering, biology, agriculture, stock breeding, and so on have been translated and distributed throughout the Americas and are now used there in universities and the professions as standard texts.

*Translation of books and bulletins contributes to friendly relations*

On our recent trip we saw many of these translations in libraries, book stores, cultural institutes, and private homes. A good many citizens of other American countries, among them political leaders and prominent professional men, consider this project very useful and of permanent value. In time American books of this character and of other kinds as well will, it is expected, be published by private book companies directly in Spanish, Portuguese or French and sold in such numbers as to need no subsidy or government assistance of any kind. It was revealing to learn what excellent ministers of good will these American books are when in the native languages of all the Americas.

*More translations from other languages into English are needed*

A few valuable books in Spanish and Portuguese have also been translated into English under this project and have made a contribution in the other direction of this cooperation. More of these translations could well be encouraged and could be subsidized, if need be, by the other American Republics. These translations would help to balance the exchange of books and to make it even more effective.



Courtesy of Department of State

#### UNITED STATES RECORDS ARE POPULAR IN THE PARAGUAYAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

##### *Cultural institutes and libraries important in program*

The Division of Libraries and Institutes of the United States Department of State cooperates with the nationals of other countries and United States citizens living in those countries in sponsoring cultural institutes and by furnishing them some English teachers, books, music and art materials, phonographs, and so on. Such institutes serve as community gathering places for the teaching of English, as reading rooms and circulating libraries for United States books and periodicals, and as social centers for lectures, music and art exhibits, and other similar activities.

On this inspection trip we visited eight of these Cultural Institutes, in Mexico City; Guatemala City; Bogotá and Medellín, Colombia; Lima, Peru; Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil; and

Habana, Cuba. Each was accomplishing its purpose and filling a real need, some much better than others, naturally. The more able the personnel in charge of and connected with the institute and the more adequate and the better adapted to the purposes of the institute the buildings occupied and the equipment available, the more effective the institutes in promoting closer and more friendly cooperative relations between the United States and those respective countries. Success of these institutes also varied according to type and activity of the Governing Board members, whether nationals of the country or United States citizens resident there. Where both groups of representatives were able, interested, and industrious and worked with the single objective of accomplishing the purposes of the institutes, they were carrying out a full and thriving program.

*Exchange of persons projects make favorable impression and permanent friendships*

Surely one of the very best ways of establishing peace and cooperation between one nation and another is for their people to work together in daily educational, technical, and professional tasks until they know the natural, peaceful, and normal heart's desires and ambitions of one another. This sort of intimate association is provided for especially in the exchange of persons program of the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation. Under these projects, outstanding leaders, professors, students, government employees, and others are brought to the United States or sent from here to other countries for inspection and observation trips to become acquainted; attend special conventions and conferences; establish personal contacts; teach and study in universities; take courses given by government agencies of many and various kinds; give and listen to special lectures and courses; see the many educational, technical, artistic, and industrial exhibits; and, with all this training and experience, return each to his own country with an appreciation for what he has learned and gained to be an ambassador of good will toward the other country and its people the rest of his life.

Most of the men and women who have been to the United States on any one of these exchange of persons programs are effective cooperators in projects pertaining to their respective fields of work and are true friends of the United States in their countries.

On our trip we found no exceptions to this general result, and we made it a part of our business to learn the effects of these exchange of persons projects. The recipients of the privileges are usually very happy and proud to have had the opportunities afforded them, their associate government officials or other employers are grateful and pleased, the United States foreign mission personnel are enthusiastic about the program, and the citizens of both countries, parties to the cooperation, are long-term benefactors as well as immediate benefactors because of the new skills and knowledge acquired by some of their present or future leaders, skilled professionals, teachers, research workers, industrialists, tradesmen, artisans, and artists. Everybody we talked with in Latin America was highly in favor of the exchange of persons projects.

*Some projects of war agencies should be continued in peacetime*

In addition to the departments and agencies listed in the table of cooperative



FIVE LATIN-AMERICAN VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES

The exchange of persons carried on between the United States and Latin America has been mutually beneficial. Among those invited to visit the United States this year were the five men shown above. Left to right: Dr. Cortés Pla, vice rector of the University of the Littoral, Rosario, Argentina; Dr. José Antonio Ramos, a distinguished Cuban author; Dr. Juan Silva Vila, director, National Library of Uruguay; Dr. Otilio Ulate, editor of the "Diario de Costa Rica"; and Dr. Juan Boggino, professor of pathology, University of Asunción, Paraguay.

projects under the Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, fiscal years 1946 and/or 1947,<sup>4</sup> two war emergency agencies had relatively large programs operating in the American Republics. These were the Office of Inter-American Affairs and the Foreign Economic Administration. The Office of Inter-American Affairs carried on a great variety of important and sizable emergency war projects. It had rather elaborate organizations and a large personnel in most of the countries collecting and disseminating information pertinent to war activities, encouraging mutual confidence and cooperation, and, in some cases where requested, giving assistance in overcoming the evil effects of subversive and un-American propaganda and activities of the fifth columns of our war enemies. The Foreign Economic Administration had among its many activities numerous contracts for the purchase of critical and strategical war materials badly needed for our prosecution of the war and also had preclusive buying programs to keep other products essential to our common enemies from getting to them and thus contributing to our victory over them and to an earlier end of the war.

The war over, these two war agencies have been terminated and definite dates have been set for the termination of most of their activities unless they are continued as desirable peacetime undertakings.

*Health and sanitation programs should be continued*

However, some of the projects started as strictly war emergencies have a long peacetime cumulative value and should be carried on in some way, perhaps on a reduced scale, until their full peacetime value may be realized and secured. Ex-

<sup>4</sup> See BULLETIN, October 1946, p. 550.



Courtesy of Interdepartmental Committee

#### THE COLOMBIAN SCHOOL OF NURSING, BOGOTÁ

American technical assistance helped to start this school of nursing, the benefits of which will be widespread.

amples of such projects are some of the municipal water and sewage systems installed in some Mexican and Brazilian towns. A few of those installations are completed but need technical personnel from the United States for a while longer to help to train the local people to manage and keep these installations in good repair and operation. Other systems are not quite completed and United States technical assistance may be needed to complete the projects and to help get them into efficient operation. Furthermore, it may be that other towns and cities seeing these installations in operation may decide that they too want such water and sewage systems installed in their municipalities and may ask for the technical assistance of the United States to put in and operate

such plants. Such is happening right now in the Amazon Valley in Brazil. Most of the assistance may be provided in the future by private individuals or companies obtaining contracts for the projects, but the United States Government may find it advantageous to cooperate in sending some top sanitary and construction engineers to aid the governments of such other countries or municipalities when requested by them to do so. Undoubtedly other projects of this war organization need United States cooperation continued for a time at least and may prove desirable permanent peacetime projects.

*Parts of information program of Office of Inter-American Affairs should be continued*

Parts of the information programs of the Office of Inter-American Affairs already have been completed. What is left of that comparatively large war organization has been put into the State Department and is being reoriented and reorganized on a peacetime basis.

Experience during the war has demonstrated the great value to both the United States and the cooperating countries of certain parts of these programs, and such parts as have proved to be effective economic means of establishing and maintaining friendly cooperation on a mutual basis should be continued as peacetime projects.

*Wartime projects should be examined for continued peacetime value*

The wartime projects of both the Office of Inter-American Affairs and the Foreign Economic Administration need now to be studied and analyzed for the value they may have in the permanent peacetime program of cooperation of all nations of the Western Hemisphere. Certainly the most useful projects making permanent

contributions to the mutual advantage of the nations of the hemisphere ought to be continued and carried on aggressively by the cooperation of the respective American Republics. From now on such projects of these two wartime agencies as shall be operated may be provided for in the budgets clearing through the Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation and be coordinated with and made an integral part of the general over-all American peacetime policy of scientific and cultural cooperation.

*Latin American foreign trade has held up since end of war*

Conversations with many persons in the countries visited revealed much uncertainty as to how their economies might be affected by the changes in their foreign



Courtesy of Interdepartmental Committee

COOPERATIVE HEALTH PROJECTS HAVE  
PROVED VALUABLE





CIAA Photo

#### A FLOOD GATE AT BELEM, BRAZIL

The object of such gates and dikes is to prevent river tidewaters from forming breeding places for mosquitoes.

trade that would follow the close of the war. However, during this reconversion period it can now be said that their industrial production in general has been maintained at the highest levels of recent years.

The expected European competition with Latin American manufactures developed during the war has not yet materialized, nor have their sales of raw materials to the United States and other countries declined to the extent expected. Total United States imports from the 20 Latin American Republics increased from 1,586 million dollars in 1944 to 1,623 million in 1945, while United States exports to those countries increased from 1,034 million in 1944 to 1,246 million in 1945.

Some United States war purchase contracts have not yet terminated and some others have been extended. Demand in Europe and other markets for foodstuffs, textiles, and other essential commodities has increased. Consequently none of the Latin American countries has as yet had difficulty in disposing of such export surpluses as have been available.

As in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere throughout the world, the chief economic difficulties have been shortages of available goods compared with the demand and the consequent increase in prices. In Latin America, as elsewhere, the solution to this difficulty lies in the production, acquisition, and distribution of more of the needed goods. Continuation of friendly and mutually advantageous

trade between the nations will contribute to the solution of this problem.

### *Conclusion*

Finally, after having spent 6 weeks of inspection and investigation in 7 countries and having had first-hand information about the projects during their lifetime, the representatives of the Interdepart-

mental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation are convinced that the international cooperative programs have made a substantial contribution to mutual good will, understanding, good neighborliness, and friendship between the United States and these 7 countries, which are in a general way representative of all 20 of the Latin American Republics.



## In Our Hemisphere—III

### The Cruzeiro (Brazil)

FROM early days Brazilians have hitched their country not to one star but to a constellation. The stars of the Cruzeiro do Sul, or Southern Cross, are always prominent in Brazilian ceremonies, on public buildings, and official documents, for they have been brought to earth to adorn the flag, the coat-of-arms, and the monetary unit. Brazilians identify the Southern Cross with the discoverers of their country, intrepid navigators such as Pedro Alvares Cabral, who reached the Brazilian coast in 1500. Cabral's pilot, Master John, responsible for the astronomical observations of the expedition, sent to King Manoel of Portugal drawings of constellations noted on the voyage, one of which was the Southern Cross.

Many were the mariners the Southern Cross guided to the new land of Brazil. At first they were only seekers of the route to India, mistaking the Amazon for the Ganges; then traders in dyewood; and finally those who wished to remain in the new world. In January 1532 Martim Afonso de Souza established at São Vicente, near the present-day Santos in the State

of São Paulo, the first substantial Portuguese settlement. Up and down the coast captaincies, similar to the grants of land made by kings to North American colonists, were set up. Colorful personalities such as João Ramalho, who aided Souza, and Diogo Alvares, called Caramurú (Man of Fire) by the Indians, assisted in the foundation and administration of the captaincies, their life among the Indians before the first permanent settlement a valuable asset in the maintenance of friendly relations.

Today the lights of beautiful Rio de Janeiro, of Recife, of Bahia, and of many other cities, of merchant vessels and of airplanes from all over the world, twinkle a greeting of friendly rivalry to the constel-





lation of the Southern Cross, symbol of the pride of a people in its country's past and faith in its future.

On October 6, 1942, the Government of Brazil officially named its monetary unit the *cruzeiro*.—E. H. B.

## The Quetzal (Guatemala)

"Preserve to me my treasure and my quetzal plumes!" Thus, it is said, prayed mighty chieftains, for treasures and quetzal plumes, symbols of rank and authority, were inseparable among ancient dwellers in Mexico and Central America. So prized were feathers of the brilliant bird that among gifts sent to the Spanish kings by the conquistadors were headdresses of quetzal plumes entwined with gold and precious stones. The quetzal, a "winged emerald" with its royal raiment of green-golden feathers, dazzling red breast, and two slender, curving plumes forming a train much longer than its small body, truly warrants a place among the rare and precious.

For centuries the quetzal soared above the magnificent temples, astronomical observatories, market places, and sacrificial altars built by the fabulous Mayas. It was sometimes trapped and temporarily deprived of its freedom; when it was released, two more graceful plumes were ready to adorn the headdress or mantle of Maya chieftains and priests. Kukulcán,

god of the planet Venus, was represented in huge stone carvings as a Plumed Serpent, the quetzal plumes taking the place of scales.

With the coming of the Spaniards, the quetzal vanished from easily accessible regions, for so greedy were the conquistadors for its beauty that unlimited slaughter of the bird was permitted. Today the quetzal is elusive, seldom seen except by those who travel far into the interior of Guatemala. It keeps its two blue eggs well hidden from the prying eyes of the stranger in its nest hollowed out in a decayed tree. But its image is everywhere—in the ruins of old Maya cities and on the public buildings and coat-of-arms of modern Guatemala.

On November 26, 1924, the Guatemalan Government decreed that the monetary unit of the country should be called the quetzal for the gorgeous bird that represents a free and independent nation.—E. H. B.

## The Lempira (Honduras)

He was bewitched and therefore invulnerable, the old Indians who knew him said. A great fighter and leader, the Spanish conquistadors admitted after a healthy dose of his fighting leadership. Martyr and hero of liberty, monuments throughout modern Honduras proclaim him.

This man was the Indian chief Lempira. His prowess is legendary. In battle none could touch him with an arrow, and he was never wounded, yet in an hour his arrows alone killed one hundred of the enemy. He laughed in the midst of danger, and his arrows whizzed with the sound of a thousand snakes.

Under Lempira, thirty thousand men and two thousand Indian nobles rose in rebellion against the Spanish conquistadors, led by Francisco de Montejo. By





Montejo's orders, Alonso de Cáceres, who founded the city of Santa María de Comayagua, returned there in 1537 to quell the revolt. What Cáceres supposed would be a brief encounter lasted six months. Lempira, struggling to maintain the freedom of his land and his people, gave the Spaniards no rest. Night and day, from the height of a cliff near Comayagua, the Indians raided their enemies, giving them little opportunity to sleep, prepare food, or care for their horses, and forcing them to remain always on the alert. Peace messengers to Lempira were scorned, for he refused to acknowledge a master, or laws and customs other than those he knew.

In despair of killing or conquering Lempira, the Spaniards resorted to treachery. Cáceres sent a mounted messenger to speak of peace to the chieftain. Lempira stood on the summit of the cliff amid a group of his followers, heard the request of the envoy, and again refused to submit to Spanish rule. A shot rang out from the gun of a soldier concealed behind the messenger's horse. Lempira fell, pierced through the forehead, and his body rolled down the mountainside. Bewildered and confused by the death of their cacique through such trickery, some of Lempira's men leaped after him over the cliff; others surrendered to the Spaniards, and the advance of the conquistadors, so nearly broken, continued throughout Honduras.

The name and deeds of Lempira, "Lord

of the Mountain," have lived on in Honduras. On April 3, 1926, his name was given to the Honduran coin, to be a constant reminder of the man who fought for the independence of his nation and embodied the strength and pride of a people.—E. H. B.

## The Sol (Peru)

El Sol, the Sun, Father of the Incas. The story of the Inca civilization of Peru was written in gleaming gold, the natural symbol of the great Inti, the Sun god. In his temple in the capital city, Cuzco, were treasures beyond modern imagination. Spanish conquistadors, awed by the display of gold and silver, which meant incredible wealth to them but had only sacred value to the Incas, glowingly wrote of the great fane, with walls covered by sheets and sacred symbols of gold, and with silver rooms dedicated to the Moon and Stars, while outside in the garden were statues of men, animals, and flowers, all of gold encrusted with jewels. A gold cornice, a yard wide and several inches thick, surmounted the temple's huge stone walls, according to some accounts.

Within, before the face of the Sun wrought in gold, worshipped the priests and the great. The most magnificent festival was that of the June solstice, when men of high degree from all parts of the Inca Empire gathered in Cuzco to par-



ticipate in the ceremonies of songs and music at sunrise, the offering to the Sun of maize wine from a large golden vase, and the rekindling of the sacred fire.

The weaving of fine wool garments for the Inca and his queen and the preparation of ceremonial foods and beverages was entrusted to the Virgins of the Sun, who led a cloistered existence in their special convent near the temple.

Inca lands were divided into three parts—one for the Sun, the revenue of which supported the magnificent temples and the many priests; one for the royal establishments of the Inca, or ruling upper class; and one which was distributed per capita among the people.

The Spaniards, under Pizarro, despoiled the Temple of the Sun, carrying away its jewels and melting down its golden images. Other booty from the temples of other cities of the empire was demanded by them, but treasure-seekers of today still search for Inca wealth hidden from their grasping hands. The Inca civilization disappeared with the Spanish conquest, leaving to the modern sightseer only shells of its former glory and to the descendants of those who worked the land in other days continued toil through the round of seasons.

On February 11, 1931, Peru paid homage to the Inca god by making the *sol*, formerly part of the *libra*, its official monetary unit.—E. H. B.

(Next month: Christmas customs)

## Spanish Page

# Elegía a la Muerte de los Combatientes Aliados

ANTONIO MONTALVO

*I chant this chant of my silent soul, in the name of all the dead soldiers ("Ashes of Soldiers"—Leaves of Grass)*

WALT WHITMAN

Cementerios del mar y de la tierra  
os dan cabida a los que fuísteis  
héroes, no de la guerra  
solamente;  
de ese ideal humano más noble y más grandioso  
e inaprehensible que es  
la sacra Libertad! . . .

Día y noche, noche y día, minuto por minuto,  
en un tiempo sin tiempo,  
fuísteis arrolladores,  
derribando, soberbios, los negros horizontes,  
hasta dar con la fiera  
y hundirla, para siempre, en su propia guarida!

Os ví caer, segados, como espigas.  
Os ví bajar de lo alto, bólicos encendidos,  
amortajados ya en vuestras propias alas.  
Y ví surgir un sol de vuestros cuerpos.  
Y escuché los ayes de vuestras agonías.  
Y oí un llanto estremecido  
brotar de las entrañas profundas de la tierra!

Sois la siembra miliaria regada en los eriales  
de la eternidad y de la muerte,  
que da frutos de luz para la humana vida.  
El plinto de oro sois, la columna y la llama  
y el fulgor siempre vivo  
del faro que a los hombres ha de guiarles  
a las costas tranquilas de la paz y el amor.

Muertos estáis, mas vuestro espíritu  
hablando está en la lengua multiforme

*De Repertorio Americano, San José, Costa Rica; 27  
de abril de 1946, p. 219*

la palabra divina que ha de dar a la especie  
la clave y la ruta del nuevo camino.  
Dioses todos, vosotros, sacrificados, mártires  
de esta epopeya trágica, sin letra ni armonía,  
magna e intraducible,  
mas de la que, de nuevo, otra vez para el mundo  
ha renacido el ténix  
eterno  
de la Libertad!

Sois y no sois, hijo del hombre!  
Vencidos vencedores!

Solos estáis ya,  
sin paisajes y sin estaciones,  
sin lunas ni crepúsculos;  
pero una llama eterna  
de amor  
vigila vuestro sueño,  
y un rocío de llanto, que viene de lo eterno,  
—donde las olas del dolor se aquietan  
y nace la esperanza—  
y hacia lo eterno va,  
cae cada alborada regando vuestra cruz.

—Quito, Mayo de 1945.

## Postwar Measures in the American Republics—X

*Prepared by the Editorial Division, Pan American Union*

### *Economic development*

UNDER date of June 17, 1946, an order of the Mexican Department of the Interior was promulgated that will govern immigration until a new law is passed. Individual requests will be passed on by a Commission made up of three specified government officials having to do with population and immigration; it will sit daily and interview applicants if it seems desirable. Lists of those approved will be published in the *Diario Oficial*. Urgent cases may be settled directly by the Secretary of the Interior; his Department will also pass on requests for admission by groups of immigrants or colonists. Resolutions approving such requests will likewise be published in the *Diario Oficial*. (*Diario Oficial*, August 1, 1946.)

The Mexican Department of National Economy has created a commission to further the development of Lower California. Among the projects it will discuss will be a plant for canning fish and shellfish, the

promotion of deep-sea fishing, and a shipyard for making and repairing fishing boats. (*Diario Oficial*, September 4, 1946.)

Several decrees designed to stimulate agriculture were issued by the Brazilian Government on June 21, 1946. The most important was Decree-law No. 9,394, which made available to the Ministry of Agriculture a special appropriation of 50,000,000 cruzeiros (a cruzeiro equals about \$0.05) to carry on an emergency campaign to increase animal and vegetable production. The others were Decree-law No. 9,389, which exempted all agricultural tools from import duties or other customs charges for a period of six months, and Decree-law No. 9,390, which provided for a like exemption for burlap bags and cloth for their manufacture. (*Diário Oficial*, June 24, 1946.)

### *Export, import, prices, rent, and other controls*

Increases in the cost of living are a burning subject in most places. By Law No. 8 of July 3, 1946 Panama created a new

National Price Bureau in the Ministry of Labor, Social Welfare and Public Health. The Bureau will be headed by a director, who will be assisted by an Adjustment Board composed of three representatives of consumers, one of agriculturists, and one of business and industry. The director will propose to the Board the ceiling prices on articles of prime necessity, which are defined as any service and any commodity essential for food, medicine, housing, clothing, education, labor, and transportation. The decision on these prices rests with the Board, but in case of a tie, the director has the deciding vote. Ceiling prices must be posted in all stores. Consumers are allowed to buy as much of any article as they want; tie-in sales are strictly prohibited.

Fines are fixed not only for those who sell above ceiling price, but also for those who buy at prices more than those set by the Board.

The Director issued his first decree on August 2, the day after the Bureau was opened. It provided that until further notice the prices of food and ordinary clothing were stabilized at August 1, 1946 levels. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 19 and August 12, 1946.)

In order to combat the rapid rise in the cost of living in *El Salvador*, the National Assembly issued a decree (No. 18) on July 13, 1946, authorizing the President to take measures to control and supervise the supply of articles seriously affecting the standard of living of the people and to fix maximum prices for such articles. Those who fail to comply with the regulations that are set up will be fined from 25 to 100 colones (colón equals \$0.40) for each offense and will have their business licenses cancelled. (*Diario Oficial*, July 20, 1946.)

Chile's Ministry of Finance organized last February a plan for stabilizing the price of sugar to Chilean consumers. By a

decree of February 22, 1946, published in the *Diario Oficial* of March 5, 1946, the Central Bank of Chile is authorized to acquire bonds of the internal debt up to the amount of 300,000,000 pesos,<sup>1</sup> the bonds to be paid for from letters of credit drawn by commercial importers of sugar. Meanwhile the price of sugar in Chile is to be fixed by the General Subsistence and Price Commissariat at a figure which is to take into consideration studies of the sharp fluctuations in world sugar prices during the past 35 years. Chilean sugar importers will be required to hold their prices at this maximum figure. Losses accruing during the period when importers must buy at inflated prices will be underwritten by the Chilean government by means of the bonds thus to be issued for the purpose. When at some future date world sugar prices fall so low that the importers' profits after buying at the new low prices would normally permit them to sell at a figure below that originally set by the General Subsistence and Price Commissariat, the importers will continue to sell sugar at the Price Commissariat's original figure until such time as the letters of credit which paid for the bonds have been completely covered. A prolonged delay in the decline of world sugar prices would of course necessitate further bond issues to underwrite the losses accruing over the longer period of time, but Chilean economists ascribe the present high prices of sugar in the world market to factors which will not be of long duration.

Since the *Dominican Republic* is an exporter of sugar, it does not have to worry about its own supply. The Sugar Institute is required by an amendment to Law No. 1365 of August 23, 1937 to collect statistics on production and sales, in the light of which the President of the Republic will assign export quotas to the different mar-

<sup>1</sup> The Chilean peso has four exchange values, from \$.0323 to \$.0516.

kets and quotas to producers. These will be in harmony with any international agreements in force. (*Gaceta Oficial*, June 27, 1946.)

Uruguay has revoked the provision of August 1945 which required wholesalers or importers to make weekly reports of sugar sales. (*Diario Oficial*, June 11, 1946.)

In accordance with the provisions mentioned in the October number of the *Bulletin*, Uruguay fixed on June 8, 1946 a new minimum price of 15 centésimos (Uruguayan peso equals about \$0.53) per liter (1.1 quarts) of milk. This was to prevail for 90 days.

In the same country the sale of flour is strictly controlled by a decree of the Ministry of Industry and Labor, dated June 6, 1946, which went into effect upon its publication in the daily press. The National Subsistence Commission sets the time and amount of all sales made by mills, in order to assure the equitable distribution of flour. (*Diario Oficial*, June 11, 1946.)

Uruguayan wheat-growers were given a one-peso increase in the price of 220 lbs. of cleaned wheat of a specified grade, making it 10 pesos instead of 9, the price set last March by the Ministry of Stock-raising and Agriculture. (*Diario Oficial*, May 30, 1946.)

In order to increase the supply of wheat available to meet internal and external demands, the Argentine Government issued Decree No. 14,809 on May 23, 1946, authorizing the Agricultural Production Regulating Board to purchase wheat left over from the harvests of 1944-45 and previous years. The Board pays 15 pesos (peso equals about \$0.25) for each 100 kilograms (220 pounds) of such wheat. (*Boletín Oficial*, June 3, 1946.)

Irregular rains in Venezuela have caused such a serious scarcity of corn that the government has acted to prevent speculation by buying direct from the growers,

paying Caracas prices for the entire crop. *El Universal* of Caracas (July 23, 1946) reports the agreement, and notes that the growers will benefit by higher prices.

It is of interest to note that Circular No. 210-9-66 of the Mexican Ministry of Finance declares that in hotels, restaurants, etc., sales of food costing more than 20 pesos (pesos equals about \$0.20) are subject to a sales tax, in accordance with general decrees of December 31, 1945 and January 2, 1946. The rate is 8 centavos per 10 pesos or fraction thereof. Sales of alcoholic drinks are taxed at 2 percent and those of non-alcoholic beverages at 1.5 percent. (*Diario Oficial*, July 25, 1946.)

Brazil's Decree-law No. 9,410, issued on June 28, 1946, provided for the speedy liquidation of the National Coffee Bureau with a minimum of disturbance to the country's coffee industry. It approved regulations for the shipment of the 1946-47 crop, and provided for a Liquidating Commission composed of three members appointed by the President to take charge of terminating the affairs of the Coffee Bureau. (*Diário Oficial*, July 3, 1946.)

Under the terms of a coffee agreement signed by representatives of Brazil and the United States during August, green coffee price ceilings in the U. S. were raised by 8.32 cents a pound. (*Department of State Bulletin*, September 8, 1946.)

Rising prices of cotton on the international market have forced an increase in minimum prices of domestic cotton and cottonseed in Colombia. New higher minimum prices were fixed by the Ministry of National Economy in a decree of July 2 published in the *Diario Oficial* of July 9, 1946. Another Colombian price change of July 2, 1946 reversed the general upward trend.

The Ministry of Public Works of Colombia recognized a decline in the prices of some kinds of imported tires by pro-

claiming a new list of prices for tires and tubes bought abroad by the Office of Agricultural, Industrial, and Mining Credit, by business houses, or by private individuals. These new figures were published in the *Diario Oficial* of July 23, 1946.

*Cuba* no longer requires permits for the sales by manufacturers or importers of certain sizes of truck tires. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 23, 1946; first section, p. 14,247.) *Haiti* too has suspended restrictions on the sales of tires and tubes, except that 50 percent must be held two weeks subject to purchase by government departments, and prices are still fixed. (*Le Moniteur*, April 29, 1946.) In *Uruguay* the government sets the prices of tires and tubes in each consignment imported. (*Diario Oficial*, June 3, 1946.)

Speculative operations in cement have led one *Colombian* price control board to take drastic action against the black market. In the Department of Cundinamarca, which includes Bogotá, every dealer in cement must be licensed by the Cundinamarca price control board or face the closing of his establishment and a fine which may be as high as 5,000 pesos (peso equals \$0.57). This measure, which was published in *El Tiempo* of Bogotá July 30, 1946, took effect August 1, 1946.

Through ANCAP (National Administration for Fuel, Alcohol, and Cement), one of the practically autonomous government entities in *Uruguay* that long antedated the war, the Government keeps a strict control on a number of items. The price of kerosene sold by ANCAP is fixed with the approval of the Government; ANCAP then sets prices for the interior of the country depending on transportation costs. New prices were set last June. (*Diario Oficial*, June 8, 1946.) At the request of ANCAP, quotas for the importation of fuel oil (51,500 tons) and Diesel oil (1,600 tons), ex-

empt from certain duties, were set early in July for the second half of 1946. (*Diario Oficial*, July 15, 1946.) Prices for cakes for cattle feed, produced by ANCAP as a by-product of the industrialization of alcohol, were fixed a month earlier. (*Diario Oficial*, June 7, 1946.)

Other commodities on which *Uruguay* maintains control are manufactured iron and woolen yarn and knit goods. Because of strikes in the United States and the uncertainty of other supplying markets, says a decree of May 25 of this year, all stocks of manufactured iron had to be reported to the Bureau of Industries, and none of a list of specified products could be sold without an order from that Bureau. The shortage of wire was especially distressing. (*Diario Oficial*, May 30, 1946.) A decree of July 4, 1946 required that before May 31, 1947 two *Uruguayan* spinning mills now in operation and a third soon to be opened should furnish a certain amount of woolen yarn to manufacturers of knit goods. When it was seen that the national market was going to be fully supplied, the Controller of Exports and Imports was to lift the ban on exports prescribed last March. (*Diario Oficial*, July 10, 1946.)

The *Dominican Republic* by Decree No. 3667 of July 23, 1946 placed a control over imports, exports, stocks, and distribution of soap and the raw materials used in its manufacture. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 27, 1946.)

In view of the termination of hostilities the *Argentine* Government issued a decree (No. 13,684 of May 14, 1946) lifting, for all except nationals of Germany and Japan, the restrictions placed on the granting of Argentine citizenship by Decree No. 6,605 of August 27, 1943. Citizenship will continue to be closed to nationals of these countries as long as the legal state of war exists. (*Boletín Oficial*, May 23, 1946.)

Decree-law No. 9,344, issued by the Brazilian Government on June 10, 1946, clarified the position of the Export-Import Division of the Bank of Brazil as the sole authority in the granting of all export licenses. When it considers it necessary, or when ordered to do so by the Government, the Division will consult with government agencies, especially those concerned with supplies of vital articles, before granting licenses. (*Diário Oficial* June 12, 1946.)

#### *Enemy property*

By Cuban Decree No. 1724 of July 17, 1946, Italy was declared excluded from the category of enemy countries and given the same exemptions as those granted to countries occupied or controlled by the enemy in World War II. Therefore Italian nationals are freed from the restrictions on their activities and their property formerly imposed on them as enemy aliens, unless there is information showing that

they are anti-democratic. (*Gaceta Oficial*, July 30, 1946, p. 14,789.)

#### *Bilateral and multilateral measures*

*Black List.* The Ecuadorean Minister of Economy issued an order on April 23, 1946 unfreezing the assets of Ecuadorean citizens who had been on the Black List of the United Nations (see BULLETIN, October 1946, p. 579), and providing that they might freely engage in any industrial, commercial, or agricultural activity. (*Registro Oficial*, May 4, 1946.)

*Convention on International Civil Aviation.* American Republics have deposited their ratifications of this convention at the Department of State of the United States as follows: Nicaragua, December 28, 1945; Paraguay, January 21, 1946; Dominican Republic, January 25, 1946; Peru, April 8, 1946; Mexico, June 25, 1946; Brazil July 8, 1946; the United States, August 9, 1946. (*The Department of State Bulletin*, August 18, 1946.)

## Pan American News

### *Message of the President of Colombia*

COLOMBIA's Independence Day, July 20, is marked not only by the traditional festivities of a nation's birthday but also by an impressive act of government. On that date the President of the Republic appears before the members of Congress to render his annual message upon the state of the nation. When President Alberto Lleras Camargo performed this duty on July 20, 1946, he had been President less than a year, for it was on August 7, 1945 that he took office as chief execu-

tive. President Alfonso López, elected in May 1942, had submitted his resignation, and the duties of the office therefore devolved upon Señor Lleras Camargo, who had been chosen by Congress First Designate to the presidency. Señor Lleras Camargo's four-year term as Senator from the Department of Cundinamarca had not expired, but under Colombian procedure he could and did turn over his seat in the Senate to the alternate elected with him. When his short presidential term was over, his seat in the Senate was waiting for his return.

In his retiring address President Lleras



Camargo spoke first of these unusual circumstances, of his brief tenure, and of the fact that he had been placed in his high office not, like other presidents, by vote of the nation, but by vote of the very body he was addressing. He reminded his hearers that during his few months of office he had made numerous appearances before them to render account of weighty decisions at the time when they took effect. For all these reasons he proceeded to deliver an address which departed from the customary pattern.

Except for a mention of Colombia's continuing opposition to the dominance of the great powers in councils of the United Nations, and a brief reference to the success of Congress in framing development plans for the railroads and highways, there was nothing of the chronicle in this message. It was not a narrative but an appraisal. It dealt with the state of the nation as viewed in the light of the nation's own history, and its economic and social possibilities.

Colombia's forty years of internal peace, said President Lleras Camargo, have built up a worthy political framework, one which in July 1944 proved strong enough to deal with an attempted military coup and deal with it through normal constitutional channels. A second demonstration of vitality was afforded by the electoral campaign of 1946. In that hotly contested struggle a government controlled by the Liberal party refused to utilize its official resources to add strength to its party forces; and at the same time that government exerted its full power to protect the free exercise of the ballot. The election of a Conservative president, after sixteen years of Liberal domination, was accepted in a spirit of respect for the verdict of a democratic people.

President Lleras Camargo noted that this was the second time within Colombia's

era of civil peace when a party long in power had been voted down, both times in orderly manner. Colombia's army, he said, still prides itself on taking no part in politics. Colombia's clergy, too, have withdrawn from secular disputes, said the President. The government cooperates with the Church, although Colombian citizens have freedom of worship. The President ventured the statement that in all the nation's history the Church had never been more truly respected than in these recent years of abstention.

In the field of economics, especially in regard to living conditions among the poor, the President saw heavy tasks ahead. Socially as well as geographically, he said, resources must be well distributed if the nation is to have a sound economic life. Minimum wages and social security cannot insure such a distribution while individuals and firms are permitted to make sudden leaps into wealth by arbitrary increases in the price of necessary commodities.

Here again the young leader was quick to point out the value of Colombia's firm political foundation; he is no advocate of building up either phase of democracy, the political or the economic, at the expense of the other. Colombia is fortunate, he said, in having a framework of political democracy already in place, and ready to meet, in a constitutional manner, any threats from individual control of public services, private monopoly of necessary goods, or any other form of injustice to consumers. Colombia is more fortunate, he added, than those nations for whom the age of swollen fortunes came earlier, before direct taxation had provided the state with a measure of defense.

Much of President Lleras Camargo's address was devoted to an analysis of the role of political parties in government. It was a

topic that was far from being academic, for the air was then full of rumors and controversies about the inclusion of Liberal members in the cabinet of the incoming president, to be announced at the inauguration of President Ospina Pérez on August 7. President Lleras Camargo had appointed Conservatives to three important posts in his own cabinet, and he took this opportunity to set forth the philosophy of that move.

Colombia's government, he explained, has no system of counterpoises like that provided in the British Parliament by His Majesty's Loyal Opposition. Neither does it have the salutary restraints offered in a federal system, where the opposition party may and usually does control many state and local governments. Colombia does not arrange for votes of censure. According to the outgoing President, the presence in the cabinet of several members of the opposition party helps to fill this lack, and to provide for the executive the same recognition of varying national opinions that is taken for granted in the legislative and judicial branches of government.

There may come times, added the President, when two parties are clearly and consistently aligned on different sides of some important current issue. At such a time a new cabinet would be needed, and as long as the issue remained vital the new cabinet could hardly include members of both parties.

### *New commercial treaty between Chile and Peru*

A new commercial treaty containing reciprocal tariff concessions and agreements regarding customs duties, import quotas, and other matters was signed by the Chilean and Peruvian Governments at Lima, Peru on April 4, 1946. This treaty replaces the former commercial treaty between

the two countries, which was signed on October 17, 1941.

Under the terms of the new treaty both countries agree to exempt books and other printed matter from import duties and other customs charges.

The Chilean Government accords duty-free entry to imports of Peruvian cotton up to a total of 700 metric tons annually, and, without quota limitations, to such imports from Peru as guano, sulfur, and anthracite coal. Chile also accords most-favored-nation treatment to ginned and unginned cotton, petroleum and its derivatives, cotton and rayon fabrics, rice, certain wool fabrics, and a number of other products. In addition, assurances are given by Chile that no restrictions will be placed on the importation of Peruvian sugar up to a quantity of 84,000 metric tons annually, and that most-favored-nation treatment will be extended to Peru in respect of any permitted imports of sugar in excess of this quota.

For its part, Peru accords duty-free entry to Chilean wheat or rice up to an annual quota of 40,000 metric tons. As long as rice is under government control in Peru, preference will be given to Chilean rice when its price is not higher than that of other rice. Duty-free entry is also granted to such imports from Chile as nitrate, sulfur, and specified varieties of Chilean woods. No import quotas or exchange control restrictions will be applied by Peru on a quantity of 100,000 liters of bottled champagne and red and white wine imported from Chile. Peru also accords most-favored-nation treatment to Chilean foodstuffs, pulp for paper making, copper and its alloys, and other products.

The treaty will remain in force for two years, and if not denounced by one of the parties three months before the end of the two-year period, it will be automatically extended for one year.



Courtesy of Alfred Coester

#### NEW LATIN-AMERICAN CONSULS IN SAN FRANCISCO

The Pan American Society of San Francisco, which makes an effort to assure Latin Americans of the city's good will toward their countries recently honored five new consuls by a luncheon at the Palace Hotel. After the coffee was served, the president of the Society, Mr. Herbert W. Clark, welcomed the guests in Spanish and offered a toast to their respective countries. As master of ceremonies, Dr. Alfred Coester, of Stanford University, introduced the consuls separately, suggesting topics for a few remarks which would be of interest. Sr. Manuel Gómez spoke of the wonderful scenery of Nicaragua, native country of the poet Rubén Darío, and quoted some of his verses. Sr. Efraín Monge praised the schools of Costa Rica, and ascribed to their influence in part the economic structure of the country. The basis of Costa Rican economy consists in the cultivation of coffee on small individually owned farms, known as *fincas*. Sr. Carlos Febres Cordero thanked United States citizens for their appreciation of the Venezuelan Liberator Simón Bolívar. In regard to Brazil, Sr. José Cochrane de Alencar described the vastness of his country and its rapid progress. He alluded to the part played in the war by Brazil, and said that when attending the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, he did not dream that within a year he would return as consul. The import of the recent presidential elections in Colombia, Sr. Carlos Uribe declared, lay in the fact that the Liberal Party, though defeated after sixteen years in office, was helping the opposite party, the Conservatives, to carry out an enormous building program. All Colombians are unitedly getting Bogotá ready for the Pan American Conference next year.

#### *Amendment to the Constitution of Costa Rica*

The appointive powers of the President of Costa Rica were limited by a constitutional amendment of June 18, 1946, which was published in *La Gaceta* of July 6, 1946. The amendment leaves with the President the power to appoint and remove at will members of his cabinet, officials and employees of the diplomatic service, and army

officers. With these exceptions his appointive power is made subject to the mandates of a civil statute requiring a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of Congress for its enactment or amendment.

A new paragraph forbids Congress to include in such statute any provision which would allow the disqualification or dismissal of any such appointed employee on grounds of his political or social beliefs.

## *Conservation in the Dominican Republic*

Article 2 of the Conservation Law of February 14, 1934 of the Dominican Republic, has been amended to forbid the clearing and cultivation of land and the felling of trees, as follows:

On the summits of all mountains in the orographic system;

In a 65-foot strip on every river bank and a 32-foot strip on either side of any stream;

Within a radius of 475 feet around the sources of all rivers or streams or around springs serving any community;

In a 65-foot strip around every lake;

On strips at least 33-feet wide at the top of all cultivated hills on both slopes;

In a 33-foot strip above high tide around the entire shore line of the country unless a piece of land is reforested.

Fines and imprisonment will be imposed on those who break the law.

## *Argentine tourist agreements with Peru, Chile, and Bolivia*

Argentina's Minister of Foreign Affairs has recently signed with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Chile and Peru almost identical agreements providing for the facilitation of tourist travel between Argentina and these two countries. Citizens of the signatory countries will need only a good conduct certificate and one identity document (passport, military or electoral enrollment book, or a cedula) to pass from one to another so long as they do not remain longer than three months or engage in gainful activity during their stay. Citizens of any American republic who have lived in Argentina, Peru, or Chile for at least two years will enjoy the same privileges.

A similar agreement between Argentina and Bolivia went into effect last July 9.

Under its terms all taxes or assessments hindering the passage of tourists between the two countries were suppressed. Tourist cards are to be granted by the consular authorities of either country for travel in the other upon presentation of a passport or certificate of identity and a health certificate.

## *Road from Bogotá to Santa Marta, Colombia*

Colombia's mountain capital has at last an overland route to the Atlantic. With Barranquilla, the Caribbean port from which most travelers now enter the country, Bogotá is still connected only by air and by a long combination of river and railroad. But with Santa Marta and Riohacha, farther east along the Caribbean shore, there is now a link by land. The through road could be traveled early in August of this year, when the last remaining section of the route from Cúcuta on the Venezuelan border to Ocaña in the Department of Norte de Santander was completed and opened to traffic.

From Bogotá to Cúcuta there has been much road travel in recent years, for Cúcuta is the Colombian border city on the Simón Bolívar Highway, which connects the capitals of Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador, and it is near important Colombian oil fields. But to a great deal of the country between Cúcuta and Santa Marta, and even to the historic port of Santa Marta itself, the opening of the new road offers a very welcome means of access to other parts of the nation.

Travelers who are in a hurry will probably continue to prefer the two-and-a-half-hour flight from Barranquilla as an approach to the capital. Over the road from Santa Marta the distance to Bogotá is about 915 miles.

### *Books for the National Library of Peru*

When Peru's National Library and the Lima Geographical Society were almost completely destroyed by fire in May 1943 a committee (known as the Committee to Aid the National Library of Peru and the Lima Geographical Society) was organized in the United States to help these institutions get back on their feet. This Committee assisted in the organization of a library school in Lima, arranged for Peruvian librarians to visit the United States to observe library techniques here, and collected over 20,000 volumes for the Library as well as a large number of maps and other works for the Lima Geographical Society.

The work of the Committee was climaxed at a ceremony held last July 4 at the Government Palace in Lima when this collection was officially presented in its name by Dr. Luther Evans, Librarian of Congress, Mr. Ralph Munn, Director of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and Mr. Francisco Aguilera, Assistant Director of the Hispanic Foundation in the Library of Congress.

Included in the collection were a large number of books on the history of Peru, a complete representation of United States culture in all its aspects, photostatic copies of ancient manuscripts on the conquest of Peru from the Harkness Collection in the Library of Congress, and microfilms of many rare documents and books.

The National Library has also received valuable collections of books from Argentina, Chile, and Mexico.

### *Universities of Recife and Paraná*

Two new universities have been created in *Brazil*—the University of Recife, located in Recife, capital of the State of Pernam-

buco, and the University of Paraná, located in Curitiba, capital of the State of Paraná. The University of Recife will include the Recife School of Law, founded in 1827, the Pernambuco School of Engineering, founded in 1896, the Recife School of Medicine with its attached Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy, founded in 1914, the Pernambuco School of Fine Arts, founded in 1932, and the Recife School of Philosophy founded in 1939. The University of Paraná will include Schools of Law, Engineering, and Medicine, all founded in 1912, and the School of Philosophy, Science, and Letters of Curitiba, founded in 1938.

### *University of Zulia*

In Maracaibo, Venezuela, work is going forward on the long-desired reopening of the University of Zulia. For forty years ambitious young men in Zulia, westernmost of the United States of Venezuela, have been wishing that once again there might be opportunity to obtain professional training within easy reach of home. Founded in 1891, the University of Zulia had been in operation only about a dozen years when it was summarily closed during the stormy days when Cipriano Castro ruled Venezuela. Now by decree of the provisional government it is to be opened again.

A school of medicine and a school of engineering are being organized as the nucleus of the newly revived university. With them will be affiliated the Maracaibo Law School, which has been functioning in that city under direction of the University of the Andes, located in Mérida.

### *Manual arts in Peru*

In accordance with an agreement between the Government of Peru and the Inter-

American Development Commission, an Institute for the Development of Manual Arts has been created in that country. This Institute will continue the work which the Commission has been carrying on in its laboratory-workshop at Miraflores of encouraging the use of national raw materials and the manual skills of Peruvian artisans in the production of textiles, pottery, baskets, and articles of wood, silver, and leather. The Commission has given the laboratory-workshop to the Institute with all installations and working material.

The Institute will conduct research programs on the decorative arts of ancient Peruvians as well as those of present-day Indian peoples, and on the development of new styles for manual products and new uses for Peruvian raw materials. It will found and operate regional institute-workshops, promote a high wage-scale for artisans, foster study trips to the United States and other countries for artisans showing special promise, and conduct exhibitions of Peruvian handicraft at home and abroad. The Institute is expected to support itself financially, but will operate on a non-profit basis.

### *Nutrition Institute of Central America and Panama*

A significant agreement has been signed ad referendum by representatives of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, providing for the creation of a Nutrition Institute of Central America and Panama. This Institute will study and assist in finding solutions for the nutrition problems of the member countries. A Food Science and Nutrition Laboratory to be located in Guatemala City will serve as the center of its activities. The Institute will train its own technicians in clinic work, biochemistry, agriculture,

and education through scholarships awarded in each of the countries by or through the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. In order to guarantee the professional future of trainees, the signing countries have agreed to create posts for them in their Governments, and the trainees in turn will have to commit themselves to serve in these posts for at least four years.

The agreement, which has already been ratified by El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, covers a four-year period and may be renewed at the end of that time. Each country is to contribute \$8,500 annually to the Institute. The Government of Guatemala has agreed to furnish the building, and to exempt from customs charges all the equipment and materials needed by the Institute.

### *Indian Institute in Peru*

The *Peruvian* Government has recently adopted two important measures pointed at improving the lot of the Indian residents of the country. One of these was a decree of May 15 which established an Indian Institute to study the various aspects of the Indian problem and cooperate with the Government in its solution. The other was the decree of July 18 which charged the Office of Indian Affairs with protecting the rights of Indian children engaged in domestic service in urban areas. This Office is to see to it that the health of such children is not injured by too long hours or work beyond their strength, that their education is not neglected, and that they receive fair wages.

### *Anti-tuberculosis campaign in Brazil*

The Brazilian Government is planning an all-out nation-wide campaign against tuberculosis to be carried on through the

National Tuberculosis Service. This campaign will include research and educational programs, intensive preventive activities, and social assistance to patients and their families. Particular attention will be paid to areas where tuberculosis is most prevalent. All federal social service agencies, pension and retirement institutes, state and municipal health departments, the Brazilian Social Welfare Legion, and any individuals who wish to contribute their money or services toward the success of the campaign will cooperate with the National Tuberculosis Service.

### *We see by the papers that—*

- Two tablets are to be placed by *Panama* in the picturesque Plaza de Francia of the capital. Under the arcades of this square that looks out over the Pacific is a series of inscriptions giving the history of the Canal from the time it was first thought of in early Spanish days. It is therefore particularly fitting that Dr. William C. Gorgas, who was in charge of the sanitation of the Canal Zone and of Panama and Colón at the time the Canal was built and who thus contributed greatly to forwarding the construction of the Canal, should receive a tribute in this place.

The other physician to be similarly honored is Carlos J. Finlay of Cuba, who first propounded the theory that yellow fever was transmitted by a mosquito, and therefore helped considerably to make possible the sanitation of Panama and the construction of the Canal.

- The *Chilean* Line has purchased from the United States Maritime Commission four fast C-2 vessels to be placed in service between New York and west coast ports of South America. Operating on a regular schedule with sailings every two weeks, the ships will carry cargo, have refrigeration for perishables, and accommodations for a

few passengers. They replace the company's former cargo-passenger fleet of three ships purchased by the United States at the beginning of the war, and now in reserve pools.

- An important commercial agreement was recently signed between *Argentina* and *Peru*. Under the terms of this agreement the Argentine Government agreed to sell to the Peruvian Government up to 180,000 tons of wheat between June 1, 1946 and June 1, 1947, and in return Peru agreed, insofar as production and commitments to other countries allow, to sell Argentina in the same period whatever quantities of coal, petroleum, rubber, lead, antimony, and other minerals it may wish to purchase.

- All employers and workers in the cotton branch of the textile industry in *Mexico* were required by presidential decree to abide by the revision of the agreement approved May 24, 1946, by a Labor-Employers Convention held to negotiate it. The agreement now forms part of the collective contract.

- The *Peruvian* Government has issued a decree requiring the use of multi-motored planes in all commercial aviation services in Peru. However, since certain landing fields are still too small for such large planes, the General Bureau of Civil Aeronautics has been authorized to grant special permission for the use of single-motored planes on routes where such fields must be used.

- By an agreement with the *Ecuadorian* Government, Pan American-Grace Airways is preparing the airports at Salinas and Guayaquil to receive and despatch night flights.

- *Chile* has acted to prevent the extinction of the chinchilla. For the next four years hunting wild chinchillas and selling their skins will be forbidden throughout the

country, although breeders may still rear the animals and sell their furs.

- *Uruguay* has lately passed a law prescribing the conditions under which floors or apartments within a building can be separately owned.
- A special one-half percent *ad valorem* import duty has been levied on all merchandise imported into *Ecuador* through customs houses or parcel post. Two-thirds of the proceeds will be used to dredge the Guayas River and one-third for an improved water supply in Cuenca.
- *Panama* will buy ten new passenger cars for the Chiriquí Railroad.
- One hundred purebred Holstein cows and two bulls have recently been imported into *Peru* from the United States.
- Last April *Ecuador* created a Tourist Commission subordinate to the Press Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- "Restinga Paradise," the new government-sponsored beach resort on Taboga Island, *Panama*, was formally opened on August 16, 1946. Located on the site formerly occupied by a torpedo boat base of the United States Navy, the resort can accommodate 240 guests.
- The *Chilean* Development Corporation has announced plans to build tourist hotels at Antofagasta, Iquique, Copiapó, Valledar, La Serena, Ovalle, and Mamiña. The largest will be at Antofagasta with accommodations for 150. The others will accommodate from 50 to 100 persons.
- Article 4 of the recent *Panamanian* immigration decree (No. 779 of May 20, 1946; see BULLETIN, September 1946, p. 531) has been amended to read as follows:

Visitors' cards will be given to all foreigners in transit through Panama who leave within two days following their arrival or by the first plane or ship obtainable.

Such cards will, however, not be given to nationals of countries with which the United Nations were at war, except Italy, but such persons may obtain cards by means of a visa from a Panamanian Consul.

- Every non-immigrant foreigner entering *Ecuador* is now required to pay eight dollars stamp tax to the Consul who visas his passport.
- The *Brazilian* Minister of Education, armed with a special appropriation of 66,000,000 cruzeiros (a cruzeiro equals about \$.05½) is planning to construct over 1,000 rural schools in the interior of the country. Preference will be given to the building of new secondary schools for the training of rural teachers, and the Minister is working out a scheme to prevent these teachers from drifting into urban areas. Free homes laid out in pleasant surroundings near the school buildings will be used as counter-attractions.
- *Peru's* Ministry of Education is in the process of organizing a Traveling Cultural Extension Service which will carry educational advantages into the remotest regions of the country. This Service will utilize the latest methods of instruction through motion pictures, the radio, records, and traveling libraries. It is expected to add greatly to the already evident success of the current literacy campaign.
- Recent legislation in *El Salvador* created the Library of the National Assembly, which will correspond to the Library of Congress in the United States. The Library will include standard references such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, and bibliographies; collections of all Salvadorean official publications, as well as the most important ones from other countries; Salvadorean newspapers and outstanding foreign ones; and a section of books,



magazines, and pamphlets on sociology, statistics, political science, political and social economics, law, jurisprudence, public administration, social welfare, insurance, education, commerce, transportation, communications, hygiene, fine arts, philology, history, geography, and biography, as well as selections from the works of the world's greatest philosophers and men of letters.

- A fine collection of *Chilean* paintings, sculpture, and books was exhibited in *Colombia's* National Library at Bogotá during the month of June. At the close of the exhibition the books were presented, in the name of the National Library and National University of Chile, to the National Library and National University of Colombia, to enrich their shelves with many Chilean works on history, geography, law, science, and literature.

- *Venezuela* is using mobile units to take the campaign against adult illiteracy into regions remote from the capital. Each truck carries its own electric generator, amplifier, and projection apparatus, as well as a corps of three to ten teachers.

- The first woman to hold high office in the *Venezuelan* government is Srta. Elisa Elvira Zuloaga, Director of Culture in the Ministry of National Education. Señorita Zuloaga is a widely traveled artist and linguist who has been co-director of the Venezuelan-American Center in Caracas since it was founded in July 1941.

- *Costa Rica* has designated September 9 as an annual date on which to direct special attention toward the social, educational, and economic needs of children.

- Something new has been added to the *Peruvian* Government's educational and health programs in that country's Amazonian backlands, in the form of a seaplane christened the *Amauta* (sage). This plane was acquired through the joint efforts of

the Ministries of Public Health and Education and the University of Oklahoma, and will be used to carry health and education officials into the otherwise almost inaccessible region. It will also be used by scientists wishing to make ethnographic and linguistic studies among the native tribes in that section.

- In *Uruguay* a Wage Board, similar to those fixing wages in industry, was set up last June to fix minimum salaries for all personnel—teaching, administrative, and service—in private elementary, secondary, and specialized schools.

- An *Ecuadorian* decree of June 9, 1946, requires all factories and enterprises of any kind employing 25 or more workers to provide stores selling articles of prime necessity at cost and in sufficient quantity for the workers and their families.

- Decree No. 1136 of July 22, 1946 regulates relations between landlords and tenants and between tenants and those who sublet property from them in *Ecuador*. The law forbids anyone to refuse a tenant because he has children or for reasons of color or race. Rents cannot be raised unless compensatory improvements have been made or unless the taxable value has been increased. No extras may be included in rental contracts. Disputes will be settled before the regular courts.

- A thirty-foot stone obelisk some two hundred yards from the highway among the mountains of southern *Colombia* bears the name of Antonio José de Sucre, Bolívar's second in command, whose victory at Ayacucho, Peru, in 1824 was the decisive battle in the South American struggle for independence from Spain. The monument, gift of ex-President Eduardo Santos of Colombia, was dedicated on June 4, 1946 by the Colombian Academy of History. It is erected on the spot where the gallant young soldier and states-

man was shot from ambush as he journeyed toward Quito on the morning of June 4, 1830.

- A monument to Simón Bolívar, which during the German occupation of *Paris*

had been torn from its base and thrown into a cellar, was reinstated and rededicated by diplomatic representatives of several of the Caribbean countries on July 24, the Liberator's birthday.

## NECROLOGY

CARLOS CONSTANTINO AROSEMENA.—Panamanian patriot and statesman. He was the lone survivor of the group of eight men credited with winning Panama's independence, and was a member of the original Junta de Independencia which arranged for the treaty whereby the United States acquired the Panama Canal Zone in 1903. His ancestors arrived in Portobello on the isthmus in 1510 with the conquistadors. His great-grandfathers were signers of the Panamanian Declaration of Independence from Spain in 1821, and there have been several Presidents of Panama and other important government officials in the family. Señor Arosemena graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and served as secretary of the first Panamanian Legation in Washington from 1903 to 1908, when he was promoted to the full rank of Minister. In 1910 he was Minister of Panama in Cuba, and in 1911 he was called back by President Pablo Arosemena, his uncle, to serve as Minister of Public Works. In 1916 he joined an importing firm in New York, returning briefly to the diplomatic service in 1929 as Panamanian

Minister to Belgium. Señor Arosemena died at the age of 78 on July 11, 1946 in New York City.

JORGE UBICO.—Former president of Guatemala. Born in Guatemala November 10, 1878, he was educated at the Polytechnic Military School in that city. He was commissioned lieutenant in 1900, colonel in 1906, brigadier general in 1920, and general of division in 1922; both his commissions as general were revoked by the Guatemalan Congress May 31, 1946. He made several journeys to the United States to study military methods, and took a prominent part in reorganizing the Guatemalan army. From 1907 to 1911 he served as governor of the Department of Alta Verapaz. In 1918 he became chief of sanitation in the Pacific coast region, where he did good work in the campaign against yellow fever. In 1926 he was a candidate for the presidency. Four years later he was elected, and when he was driven out of office by revolution in 1944 he had been president since 1931. He died on June 14, 1946, in New Orleans, where he had been living since October 1944.

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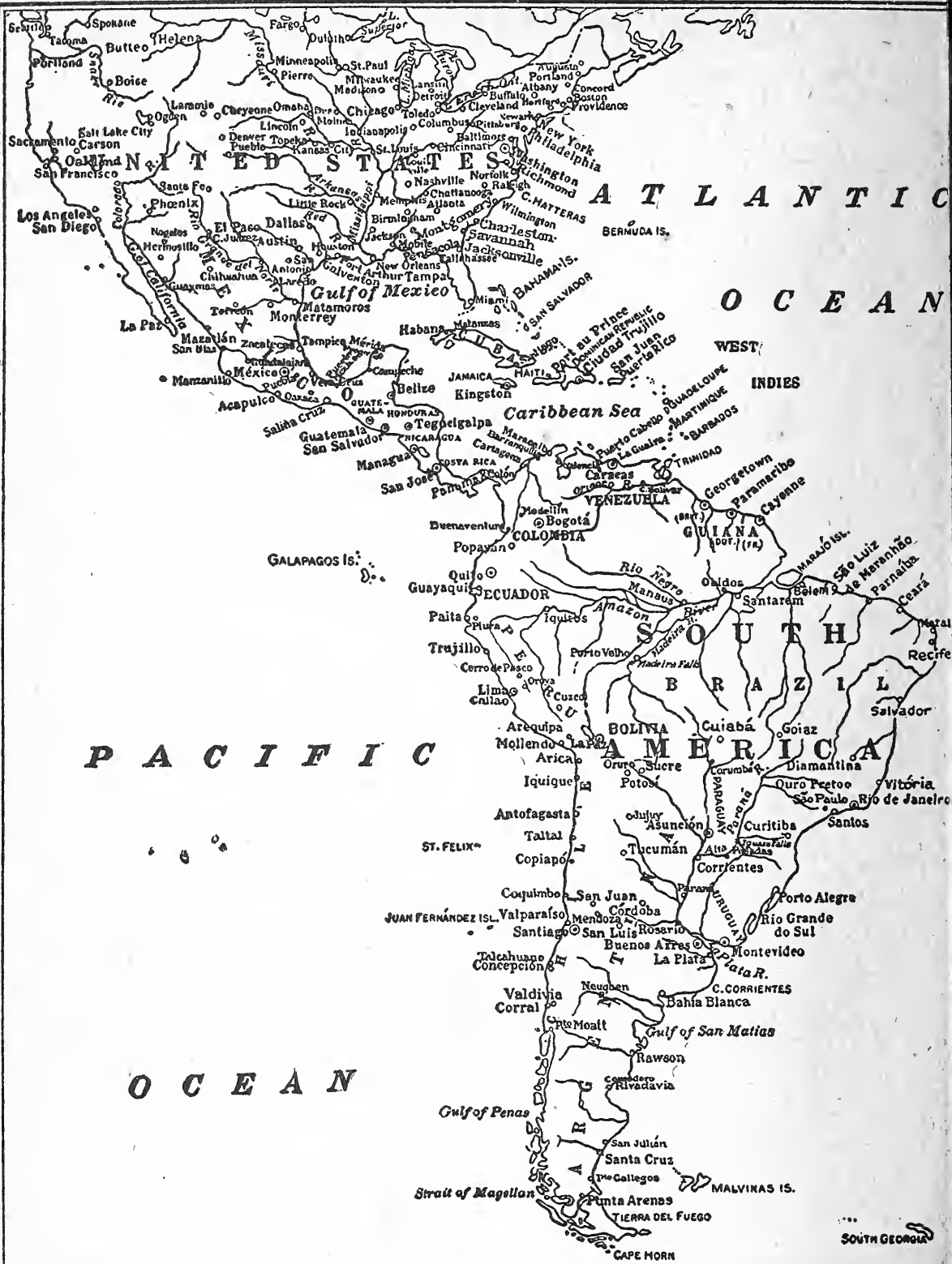
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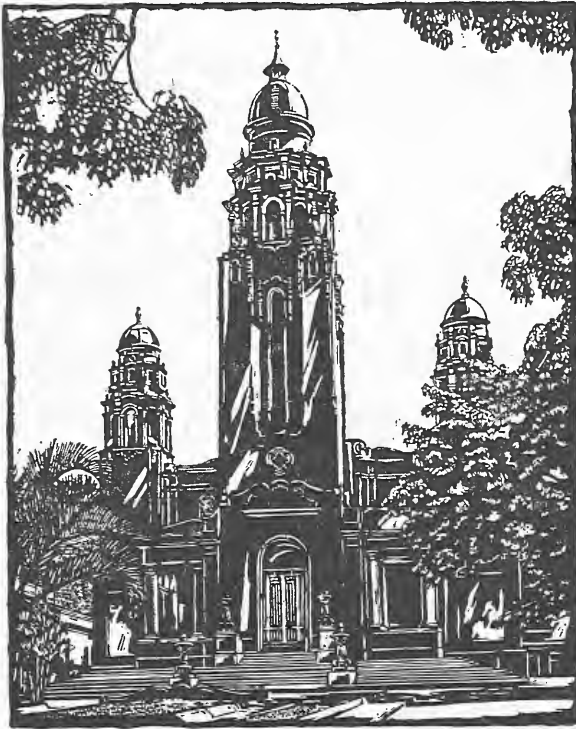
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BULLETIN OF THE

# Pan American Union



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# THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE PAN AMERICAN UNION, now 56 years old, is an international organization created and maintained by the twenty-one American Republics: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Originally known as the International Bureau of the American Republics, it was established in 1890 in accordance with a resolution passed April 14 of that year by the First International Conference of American States, which convened at Washington in October 1889. April 14 is celebrated annually throughout the Americas as Pan American Day.

The work of the Union was greatly expanded by resolutions of the Second Conference, held at Mexico City in 1901-2; the Third, at Rio de Janeiro in 1906; the Fourth, at Buenos Aires in 1910; the Fifth, at Santiago, Chile, in 1923; the Sixth, at Habana in 1928; the Seventh, at Montevideo in 1933; the Eighth, at Lima in 1938, and by other inter-American conferences. The creation of machinery for the orderly settlement of inter-American disputes is one of the outstanding achievements of the Pan American system, but more important still is the continental public opinion that demanded such procedure.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Pan American Union is to promote friendship and close relations among the Republics of the American Continent and peace and security within their borders by fostering constructive cooperation among them. The Union is supported by annual contributions

from all the countries, in amounts proportional to population, and its services are freely available to officials and private citizens alike. Its affairs are administered by a Director General and an Assistant Director, elected by and responsible to a Governing Board composed of one member from each American Republic.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

The administrative divisions of the Pan American Union are organized to carry out the purposes for which it was created. There are special divisions dealing with foreign trade, statistics, economics, intellectual cooperation, music, juridical matters, agricultural cooperation, travel, and labor and social information. All these divisions maintain close relations with official and unofficial bodies in the countries members of the Union. The Columbus Memorial Library contains 138,500 volumes and 2,400 maps. The BULLETIN of the Pan American Union, published monthly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, is the official organ of the institution. For a list of other publications of the Union, see the inside back cover.

## PAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

The Pan American Union also serves as the permanent organ of the International Conferences of American States, usually referred to as the Pan American Conferences. In addition to preparing the programs and regulations, the Union gives effect to the conclusions of the Conferences by conducting special inquiries and investigations and by convening or arranging for special or technical conferences in the intervals between the International Conferences.





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ILLUSTRATION AT SIDE: MODERN BUILDINGS IN MONTEVIDEO,  
URUGUAY

(Courtesy of National Tourist Bureau of Uruguay)





PART OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST MALARIA IN MEXICO  
Oil sprayed over the still waters at Xochimilco kills larvae of the deadly *Anopheles* mosquito.

# BULLETIN OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXXX, No. 12



DECEMBER 1946

## Taking Counsel for America's Health *The Pan American Sanitary Bureau*

CLARA CUTLER CHAPIN  
*Editorial Division, Pan American Union*

A FEW dozen men sit around a council table. "My country is handling the problem like this . . ." "Here is what we have been doing in our country. . . ." "Our method is different; can't we work out some way that would do for us all, and save trouble for everybody?"

Men around a council table, representing many different countries—yet they are not maneuvering to get things away from each other. They are laboring on something they agree about, something they all believe ought to be done. For many of the world's problems, no reporter could soberly offer such an account. But for the health problems of the Western Hemisphere this is not a fairy story at all; meetings like this have been held at intervals, in various cities of North and South America, ever since the First Pan American Sanitary Conference was called

to order in Washington on December 2, 1902. Those conferences and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, which is their permanent core, have been coordinating the health work of the Americas for nearly half a century. They have become a vigorous force, acting through hundreds of definite undertakings.

The first of those conferences opened on December 2, 1902, the date now celebrated as Pan American Health Day. It passed resolutions on the manner in which the world's great pestilences are spread, resolutions which gave official sanction to the fact that yellow fever is carried by mosquitoes, as Cuba's Carlos Finlay had been insisting for twenty years, and as the Habana experiments had demonstrated in 1900. And in that same three-day session the conference also organized the Sanitary Bureau, the first

permanent international health body the world had ever seen.

The Pan American Sanitary Bureau is the coordinating center for the public health activities of the twenty-one American republics. It is an autonomous institution, with its main offices in the Pan American building at Washington.<sup>1</sup> Like the Pan American Union, it is part of the inter-American system, and derives its ultimate authority from the American republics acting through the International Conferences of American States.

It was the second of these Conferences of American States, the one meeting at Mexico City in January 1902, that created both the Sanitary Bureau and the Sanitary Conferences. At first the conferences were called International Sanitary Conferences, and the executive office

<sup>1</sup> There are branch offices at Lima and Guatemala City.



FIGHTING BUBONIC PLAGUE IN A PERUVIAN VILLAGE

A sodium fluoroacetate mixture makes tempting little poisoned cakes which clear the houses of rats while DDT disposes of the plague-bearing fleas.

through which they functioned was called the International Sanitary Bureau; but since 1923 the conferences have been known as the Pan American Sanitary Conferences and the executive office as the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Policies of the Sanitary Bureau, after they have been framed by the Sanitary Conferences, are carried out under a Directing Council, on which the twenty-one republics are represented in rotation. Each Pan American Sanitary Conference announces the list of nations whose representatives will serve on the council until the next conference, although the naming of the personal incumbents is now left to the countries represented. At the same time the council elects the Bureau's director, who appoints its staff. Funds are provided by annual quotas which are contributed by the twenty-one republics in proportion to their population.

Some appalling diseases were ravaging the Western Hemisphere when the First Sanitary Conference met. They were bad enough to make the most rigid individualist give sober thought to the merits of teamwork. Smallpox, typhus, and yellow fever had afflicted the Americas since colonial days, and they were still spreading fast. With independence and the relaxing of the old intercolonial restrictions, local epidemics became a continental menace; and the steam navigation of the nineteenth century naturally made matters worse. Then came Asiatic cholera, which swept into the hemisphere in the 1830's, 40's, 50's and 60's, causing over 50,000 deaths. At the turn of the century the dreaded bubonic plague appeared in America, spreading to the north and south, and inland by rail and water from the ports where it entered. Stern action was needed.

Quarantine measures had been fitful and chaotic. They rasped a great many nerves,

and that was about all. In the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries quarantine laws were temporary and pointed. Chile, for example, ordered quarantines against Peru in 1649, in 1759, and in 1785; Massachusetts quarantined against the West Indies in 1648; Costa Rica quarantined against other Central American states in 1816. Late in the 19th century a few small groups of nations tried to agree on their quarantine measures, and there were some regional compacts dealing with ship inspection and news of fresh outbreaks. The compacts soon ran into difficulties, but their subject matter furnished a good starting point for the steadier group action that was to come.

The story of 20th century advances in the struggle against smallpox, typhus, yellow fever, cholera, and bubonic plague is a story of good teamwork based on systematic collection and distribution of information. It would be pleasant to report that under the Sanitary Bureau's persevering attacks the five great 19th century pestilences had been completely wiped out; but it would not be true. Much ground has been gained, but the struggle is not over.

Smallpox still exists in this hemisphere, although in most of the twenty-one republics it no longer constitutes a serious health problem. A few countries have been so diligent in vaccination and quarantine that they now have no smallpox at all. The United States is not one of these countries with a perfect record; we continue to have several hundred cases a year.

Yellow fever has yielded to repeated attacks on its mosquito carriers. The urban yellow fever once carried far and wide by *Aedes aegypti* has almost disappeared. *Haemagogus* and perhaps other mosquito genera keep jungle yellow fever in circulation in five or six countries, but the total of cases

for the whole Western Hemisphere rarely reaches a hundred a year.

Recent typhus records seem to show typhus increasing rather than decreasing, but this may be due to better reporting. Many epidemiologists believe that the new typhus areas are regions where typhus had already existed but had not yet been recognized. In any case, they see good cause for optimism in such powerful new control measures as DDT, and in the recent discovery of what seems to be an effective vaccine. In Colombia the Sanitary Bureau is working with national health authorities on a series of typhus tests in selected areas; DDT and various vaccines are used together and separately, to measure their efficacy in control of the disease. Knowledge thus gained will be put to immediate use in Guatemala, where the Government is cooperating with the Sanitary Bureau in a five-year plan for the eradication of typhus throughout the country.

Cholera has been driven from the hemisphere. It is many years since cases have been known in any American country. But cholera still exists in parts of Asia and in a few Pacific islands, and as long as it does, American health authorities will have to be always on the watch.

Bubonic plague is the newest of the five. It has been with us for less than half a century, and in that time it has given us a vivid picture of the zigzags of fighting a pestilence. As soon as rats and their fleas had been convicted of carrying the plague, health authorities went to work on the rat problem, and with the Bureau's untiring assistance there were very great gains. But there were setbacks too. There were sudden fresh outbreaks in cities where for several years there had been no new cases, not so much as an infected rat. The same old steps had to be taken again and again, and new ones too.

In a hot little Peruvian village some carefully recorded experiments under Sanitary Bureau guidance showed what DDT can be made to do against plague. Powdered dilutions of DDT were thoroughly applied to floors and furniture of all buildings in the infected area, and to spaces above ceilings, in double walls, and below floors. The DDT killed the fleas, the rats were poisoned by concoctions of sodium fluoroacetate, and less than a week after the work had been completed a raging local epidemic had stopped short.

One of the Bureau's sanitary engineers has developed an ingenious anti-plague weapon which he calls a flame-thrower, or *lanzallamas*. The flame-thrower looks a little like a school fire-extinguisher, but it works the other way. Kerosene from its four-gallon tank is fed to the nozzle through a rubber hose, and its intense flame raises the temperature of a rat-hole to about 400° Fahrenheit. Insects in any stage, larvae, pupae, or adults, are instantly cremated, while the rats themselves die of carbon monoxide poisoning. Even houses can be cleared by the flame-thrower, for a skilled and steady operator can pass it carefully across walls and floor and kill the vermin in the cracks without setting fire to wood or bamboo.

Plague still lingers here and there, and in a few rural inland areas it seems to have a foothold. But there is not a single important American seaport from which it has not been wiped out, and the yearly total of plague cases for the whole hemisphere seldom approaches five hundred.

Malaria is now one of the grave health problems. Mexico's great health pioneer, Dr. Eduardo Licéaga, put the case well when he urged one of the early Sanitary Conferences to work harder on deadly diseases which "do not cause the beneficial alarm" aroused by plague and cholera. In 1936 the Sanitary Bureau organized a

special committee on malaria, to study the extent of the disease, the habits of its mosquito vectors, and the drugs native to America which can be used in treatment. Members of the committee have been invited to many countries to study the disease on the spot.

Meanwhile the Bureau has set up laboratory facilities for identifying species of the *Anopheles* mosquitoes which carry malaria, for training entomologists to deal with them, and for testing larvicides. It has published a complete list of the *Anopheles* of North and South America, and has helped form mosquito collections in the malarial regions so that local authorities may quickly learn to recognize the infecting insects. It has published a dictionary of malaria terms in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English, so that health officers may make full use of all the information that reaches them.

It has helped in more immediate ways, too. It has taken part in the building of a South American plant to make substitutes for Paris green, needed to kill mosquito larvae in standing water where drainage cannot be managed. It has stimulated the growing of cinchona, from which quinine is derived, and has opened up new sources of malaria drugs for countries suffering from drug shortage. It has urged the passage of national laws forbidding the importation of any malaria "medicine" which cannot legally be sold in the country where it is made; many drug laws do not regulate export, and there seem to be a few manufacturers who are willing to make money by selling abroad so-called medicines which at home are forbidden by law.

Onchocerciasis, a skin and eye disease caused by a small worm and carried by the *Simulium* fly, has recently been receiving the Bureau's special attention. This disease seems to be confined to two

### A CUBAN DRAINAGE CHANNEL

Bottom and sloping sides are lined with concrete. Grass is planted along the ridge to prevent erosion.



countries, Guatemala and Mexico, but because it is prevalent along part of the Pan American Highway, and because it spreads so rapidly, it has become something of an international problem. With the help of the Bureau, the Mexican and Guatemalan Governments are carrying on laboratory research as well as control work in the field.

Syphilis and malaria offer other dangers along the Highway. Through their provision of safe water supplies and proper sewage disposal, the Bureau's active sanitary engineers have benefited not only the Highway camps but many of the nearby villages.

Along the border between Mexico and the United States a cooperative campaign against venereal disease has been going on since 1942. Laboratories have been installed, personnel has been trained on the spot, and several centers of infection have been cleared on both sides of the border. Cases in either country are reported promptly to both. Three authorities are joining in this work—the Mexican Department of Health, the Pan

American Sanitary Bureau, and the United States Public Health Service.

Another two-country project was inaugurated when the Ciudad Juárez Midwife Institute opened its doors on September 3, 1946. At this institute there are seventy-seven students, selected from among the hundred and ten who made application. Lectures and demonstrations are teaching them to deliver a baby with the least possible danger to the life of the child and its mother. Working with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau on this undertaking are the United States Children's Bureau and the Mexican Office of Maternal and Child Health and Welfare.

In its concern over disease the Bureau has not forgotten that health can be good as well as bad. Side by side with their defensive measures against old and new disease enemies, the Sanitary Bureau and the Sanitary Conferences have been laboring toward a positive building up of general health in the hemisphere through the avenue of good nutrition. More than this, they have not contented them-

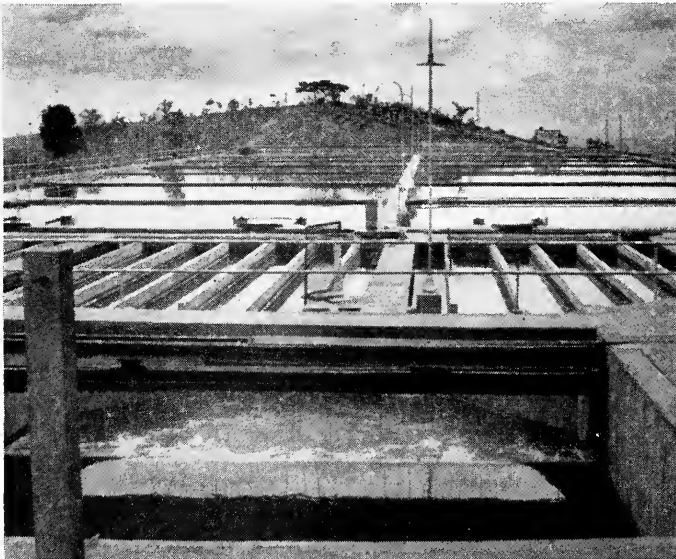


selves with the easy chore of telling mothers what food values their children ought to have; they have gone on to give definite help in the heavier task of making those food values a little easier to get at. Sanitary engineers and medical representatives have accepted invitations to study local problems in the local setting. Expert advice has done much to improve water supplies, milk supplies, and conditions in slaughter houses and public markets.

The problem of safe water supply and proper sewage disposal is one to which the Bureau has long given special emphasis. Its Division of Sanitary Engineering has a section which devotes itself entirely to stimulating a wider provision of safe drinking water and sanitary sewers. In June and September 1946, regional conferences on sanitary engineering were held in Rio de Janeiro and in Caracas. Several hundred sanitary engineers and health administrators made plans for general improvement of water and sewage facilities, and paved the way for still further advance by forming the new Inter-American Association for Sanitary Engineering.

The Bureau has published instructions for installing water systems, with specifications for reservoirs, chlorination plants, pipe lines, and testing apparatus, setting safety standards for the physical, chemical, and bacteriological properties of the water. It collects and distributes detailed information about drinking water conditions in Western Hemisphere seaports. For this it uses a questionnaire that covers the sources of the water, construction of the waterworks, methods used for purification and for analysis, and a statement of physical, chemical, and bacteriological condition of the water.

A good common-sense approach gives value to food consultations. The question of what to eat begins at home; what is there to eat? So the food experts working with the Sanitary Bureau look first into the foods that are easy to obtain. Instead of preaching fresh fruits in a region far from orchards, they look into other possible sources of the needed vitamins. Instead of painting the terrors of milk bacilli in cities where pasteurized milk is only for the rich, they distribute free copies of simple and



SAFE DRINKING WATER  
FOR A COLOMBIAN CITY

View of the municipal reservoir at Cali, showing the clarifying basins.



definite rules for boiling milk in ordinary home pans on a kitchen stove.

In Mexico the Bureau has joined Mexican and Massachusetts nutritionists in a fruitful study of the nourishment to be found in some typical Mexican products. Food chemists analyzed 112 samples of such plentiful things as mallow, chayote, lentils, chick peas, prickly pear, etc. Here they found a few unsuspected treasures in the way of nutrition. Mallow, which grows so abundantly in Mexican highlands, proved to be rich in carotin, iron and ascorbic acid, so rich that a single serving would supply most of the daily requirement of iron and vitamins A and C for an adult man. Several fruits and vegetables were found to contain much protein, thiamine, iron, and calcium, enough so they might well be used to help make up food lacks in places where meat and milk are scarce. All sorts of dietary possibilities are opened up by this study, and others like it will soon be under way in other countries.

In Guatemala City a Food Science and Nutrition Laboratory is being established under the newly created Nutrition Institute of Central America and Panama, to attack some of the nutrition problems of Central American countries. Representatives of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and the Pan American Sanitary Bureau have signed the agreement which brings the Institute into being. Member countries will contribute toward its support, and the Government of Guatemala will also furnish a building and give duty-free admission to the required equipment.

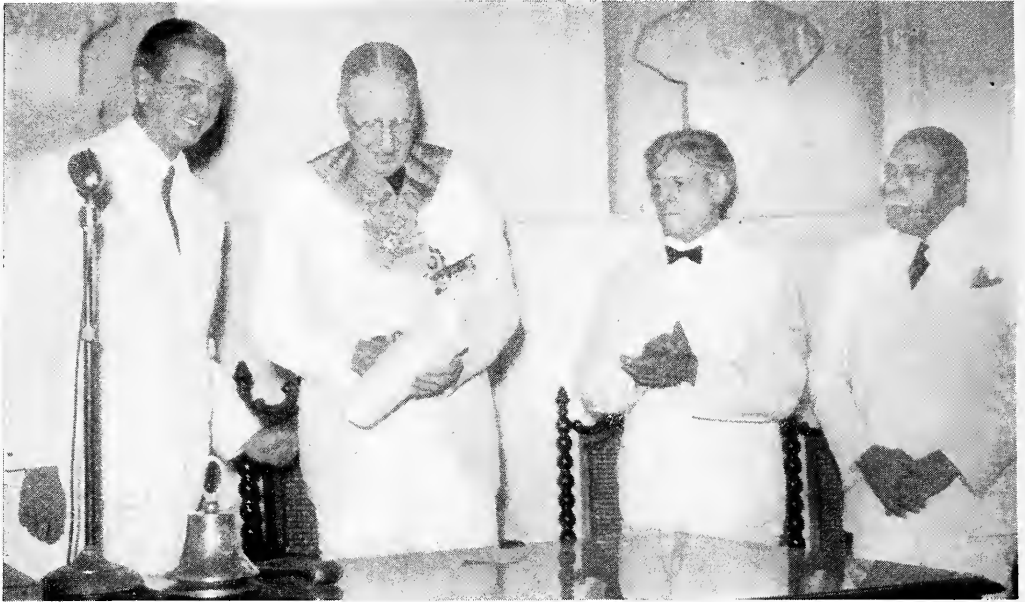
Side by side with all this field work, the Sanitary Bureau carries on its own home projects. It collects and analyzes statistics; it answers individual questions from all over the hemisphere; it stimulates studies of new vaccines and antitoxins. It gives wider distribution to needed medical

texts and manuals, translating some and circulating others in microfilm form.

For more than twenty years the Bureau has been publishing a free monthly Bulletin on health activities in the Americas, carrying material in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English. From time to time it issues short pamphlets on special subjects; a list of titles is circulated, and as individual requests come in at the Washington office the leaflets are mailed out without charge. More than two hundred have already appeared, treating such varied topics as fungous diseases, health precautions for travelers in the tropics, fumigation of boats, sewage disposal, and first principles of nutrition.

At the base of the Bureau's work and procedure is a written foundation—the Pan American Sanitary Code, which was adopted in 1924 at Habana by the Seventh Pan American Sanitary Conference. Definitely and specifically the Code tells in a few pages what the Bureau shall do, how it shall do it, and exactly what tests shall be applied in enforcing the standards adopted by the Sanitary Conventions.

History will give a proud place to this Code, for the Pan American Sanitary Code was the earliest of all the inter-American agreements to be ratified by every one of the twenty-one republics, and it is still the only one. But work that deals with living forces must often hold its course by a change of method. New inventions, new economic trends, new national and international habits call for a new set of rules. For several years a committee of health authorities from various nations has been studying the changing conditions of public hygiene and drawing up proposals for a new version of the sanitary code of the Americas. Consideration of these proposals will be one of the tasks of America's public health leaders when they gather at Caracas in January



#### THE SANITARY BUREAU IS HONORED THROUGH ITS DIRECTOR

In October 1946 the Cuban Government conferred upon Dr. Hugh S. Cumming the Grand Cross of Carlos Finlay, in recognition of Dr. Cumming's great work as Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau. Dr. José R. Andreu, Minister of Health and Social Welfare, made the presentation, acting for Dr. Ramón Grau San Martín, President of Cuba. Dr. A. A. Moll, Secretary of the Sanitary Bureau, stood at Dr. Cumming's left when Dr. Andreu presented the insignia.

1947 at the Twelfth Pan American Sanitary Conference.

Outside as well as inside the Western Hemisphere conditions are changing. The very existence of the United Nations poses problems for those older international bodies whose well-developed activities have already set their own pace. A World Health Organization was formed in New York in July 1946 under the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, providing in its constitution for the integration of other international public health organizations. To set the pattern for its own integration, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau through its Directing Council issued on October 10, 1946 its Health Declaration of Habana. The declaration was transmitted through the Cuban government to the Pan American Union and

the governments of the American republics, and the delegates who signed it added their personal tribute to the achievements of the Sanitary Bureau under Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, for twenty-six years its Director.

The constitution of the World Health Organization says (Article 54) that "the Pan American sanitary organization represented by the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the Pan American Sanitary Conferences . . . shall . . . be integrated with the Organization . . . through common action based on mutual consent of the competent authorities expressed through the organizations concerned."

To define the scope of this provision, the Declaration of Habana states:

That . . . the governments of the American republics should make the following reservations when ratifying the New York agreements:

a. That the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and its supporting organizations will maintain their identity, integrity, and future development under their own policies, which will be available to all the countries of the hemisphere.

b. That when the Pan American Sanitary Bureau is integrated as the American Regional Organization, under the Constitution of the World Health Organization, the provisions of Chapter XI<sup>2</sup> shall not be applicable to the Bureau, whenever they conflict with its own policies and statutes.

c. And that the integration agreement with the

<sup>2</sup> Chapter XI deals with Regional Agreements, and includes Article 54 which deals with the Pan American Sanitary Bureau by name.

World Health Organization shall specify that the quotas of the American countries for the maintenance of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau shall be deductible from their respective contributions for the maintenance of the World Health Organization. This agreement shall be submitted to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union for approval.

The Declaration closes with the statement that:

For the purposes of Article 54 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, the council considers the governments of the American republics to be the competent authorities, and the Pan American Sanitary Conferences to be the interested organizations.

## STICA in Paraguay

### A wartime expedient becomes a peacetime asset

WILLIAM C. BRISTER

*Director, Food Supply Division, Institute of Inter-American Affairs*

STICA will be four years old on December 31, 1946—its second peacetime anniversary. Established by Paraguay and the United States during the first years of the war to help increase critically needed food supplies, the Servicio Técnico Interamericano de Cooperación Agrícola, or STICA as it is usually known, has lived on into peacetime to become a vital part of Paraguay's Ministry of Agriculture.

A cooperative service within the Ministry designed to build an effective and enduring agricultural development program in Paraguay, STICA is staffed by both Paraguayan and United States citizens and is financed by joint contributions from the two governments. The American members of STICA fulfill the present critical need for trained technical and

administrative personnel.<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, young Paraguayans working side by side with these men are gaining the practical skills and experience necessary to continue the program successfully when the United States technicians leave at the expiration of the basic agreement between the two countries.

For Paraguay STICA is attempting to build an improved agricultural economy which will enable its people to raise their standard of living, and become active producers and consumers in the world community. For the United States STICA is trying to build a more prosperous neighbor whose better-fed citizens can

<sup>1</sup> See "United States Program of Scientific and Cultural Cooperation with other American Republics," by Edgar B. Brossard, *Bulletin*, October and November 1946.



Photographs courtesy of IIAA

#### PLOW INSPECTION IN THE FIELD

A supervisor adjusts a plow as neighboring farmers watch and learn.

afford to buy larger quantities of consumer and industrial goods. *For both countries* STICA serves as an experiment in international cooperation—a cooperative attempt to help each other through combined action.

#### *Agricultural background*

One of the Western Hemisphere's two landlocked nations, Paraguay possesses tremendous agricultural possibilities. Among these are a subtropical climate suitable for the production of most crops of the temperate and tropical zones; wide expanses of fertile soil awaiting development; abundant mineral deposits; virgin forests; and one of the greatest concentrations in the world of undeveloped hydroelectric energy.

Yet, despite these natural advantages, agricultural production in Paraguay has not been sufficient to satisfy domestic

demands, much less to provide a surplus for foreign markets. The country's subsistence-type economy, based on farming, cattle raising, and timber products, must support a population of over one million, more than two-thirds of whom live within a hundred miles of Asunción, the capital city.

With this background in mind STICA technicians set out to develop a program which would serve as a beginning, or a framework, for improving Paraguayan agriculture. Means had to be organized for disseminating information concerning modern agricultural techniques. The National Institute of Agronomy at Caacupé, established in May 1943 by the Paraguayan Government as an agricultural demonstration and experimentation center for the benefit of farmers, offered the facilities needed for introducing new methods.

*National Institute of Agronomy*

Occupying a 500-acre farm situated about 30 miles from Asunción, the National Institute of Agronomy is primarily a center for the development of improved seed production and storage practices—important problems in a climate like that of Paraguay. But besides producing, testing, and labeling tons of improved seed for distribution to farmers, the National Institute is used as an experimental center to determine the modern agricultural methods most adaptable to the needs of the country. Examples of the practical nature of this work are the two farms which it operates to test the standard of living that can be maintained on Paraguayan farms of specified acreage operated with modern methods. For this purpose the two tracts are administered as if they were the property of average Paraguayan farm families and detailed records of daily expenditures and receipts are kept.

The Institute is also used as a training

center for young Paraguayans. The most promising of these trainees receive special courses which prepare them for work as loan supervisors for the agricultural credit phase of STICA's program.

*Farm Credit Program*

The Farm Credit Program, which was established three years ago by the Paraguayan Government with the assistance of STICA, embraces all forms of financial and economic aid required for the development of Paraguayan farms. To date about 2,000 farm families have participated in the program which combines practical education with the power of credit to enable farmers to obtain the resources necessary for farm improvement. Through these facilities loans are extended for crop production, the acquisition of livestock and equipment, or the paying off of existing debts. Ample credit is also arranged for the establishment of cooperatives, while technical advice and supervision are



FARMER AND TRACTOR BECOME ACQUAINTED

At the National Institute of Agronomy at Caacupé, Paraguayan farmers are learning how to use and care for tractors.

always available to help the loan recipients practice modern methods of agricultural development

In accordance with the terms of the basic agreement signed by Paraguay and the United States, STICA trains the credit supervisors and helps to administer the program. To increase its effectiveness meetings are held with the small loan farmers from time to time to discuss current problems. At a recent gathering at STICA's dairy at San Lorenzo, more than 100 clients were in attendance.

*Training course.*—To aid further in the conduct of supervised credit activities, a training course for supervisors was recently reorganized. Students will remain at the school in Caacupé for at least six months in order that they may be well grounded in the fundamentals of agriculture practiced at the Institute.

*Model colony.*—To demonstrate that larger farm units and more modern farm practices are prime requisites for an improved standard of living in Paraguay, the

Farm Credit program has assumed the operation of a model colony at Piribebuy, southeast of Asunción. Since considerable difficulty has arisen in connection with the securing of well-drilling equipment, development of the colony has proceeded on a restricted scale. At the present time plans for housing facilities and a winter cropping program are being prepared so that 12 to 15 colonists can be established on lots already cleared. This group will later serve as a nucleus for the proposed extensive settlement of the area.

*Home improvement.*—Another major activity of the Credit Program is assistance for the farm women of Paraguay. This is accomplished by the Domestic Work Centers, the first of which was established in Capiatá, a village 25 miles southeast of Asunción, in October 1944. The purpose of these centers is twofold: first, to train rural workers or supervisors in practical home economics, and second, to provide country women and their families with a place where they can learn the funda-



A MODEL FARM COLONY IN THE MAKING

A technician discusses plans with Paraguayan farmers for a model farm colony at Piribebuy.



COMMUNITY SERVICE DEMONSTRATION CENTER AT YAGUARÓN, PARAGUAY

mental facts and practices that contribute to the comfort of the home.

In addition to the center at Capiatá, centers have also been established at Yaguarón and Ybycui and subcenters at Posta Ybyraro and Ita Potrero near Capiatá. Each of these has facilities for practical training in sewing and weaving, gardening, cooking, home hygiene, and the care and instruction of children. Besides help in these domestic tasks, women whose ages range from 13 to 85 receive instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic each month. It is anticipated that the home improvement program will gradually be extended to the rural population of all principal communities reached by the Farm Credit agents.

In order to increase the number of home improvement supervisors available to aid in this work, a training course for them is now being conducted at Capiatá under the direction of STICA's Home Demonstration Specialist. Here 30 young women

between the ages of 20 and 35 are being trained to assist Paraguayan families in coping with the problems of rural living. Six months will be devoted to the study program, two of which will be utilized in supervised practice. At the end of this time each student completing the course will receive a certificate of accomplishment and will be assigned to a rural community as a representative of the Farm Credit Program.

#### *Livestock*

Although probably more meat is consumed per capita in Paraguay than in any other country of the world and while it is well known that the cattle industry constitutes its largest source of revenue, the majority of ranches in Paraguay have undergone little if any modernization during this century.

At Estancia Barrerito, a cattle ranch owned by the Government of Paraguay in the Misiones livestock region, STICA





HEREFORD CATTLE

Thoroughbred cattle, such as these at the Barrerito ranch, have been purchased for cross-breeding purposes.

conducts a livestock program designed to provide a visual demonstration of the improved practices which its technicians believe are necessary for a vitalization of the Paraguayan livestock industry. These include:

1. Increasing the production of meat by reducing the time now spent in preparing young stock for market.
2. Improving the quality and increasing the quantity of the meat by importing good breeds and by developing native cattle through selection and improved feeding practices.
3. Increasing the productive capacity of the fields by better methods of fencing and through pasture improvement and rotation.
4. Producing supplementary feed to fatten cattle during critical periods and utilizing crop residues for forage.
5. Stimulating interest in a better product by correlating prices with quality.

For the purpose of demonstrating the value of these recommendations, STICA carries on two principal operations at Barrerito: first, experimental and demonstrational work and second, improvements in range management. Covering an area of 30,000 acres, the ranch now supports

some 5,000 head of native cattle as well as imported stock. Among the many improvements initiated by STICA since it assumed the direction of the ranch are dipping troughs, good fencing, underground storage facilities, and the planting of forage crops.

*San Lorenzo Dairy.*—To demonstrate modern commercial dairy methods, STICA established a model farm three years ago in San Lorenzo near Asunción, on property belonging to the ENAME, the national secondary agricultural school. Organized as a self-sustaining enterprise to supply milk, dairy products, and pork to the school and to the Asunción market, the dairy farm can take care of 100 cows while the pasteurization plant has a capacity of 2,000 liters of milk a day, sufficient to make an effective contribution to the local market.

A unique institution in Paraguay, the dairy supplies the only bottled pasteurized milk in the country, besides serving as an educational center for dairymen in the Asunción area. To supplement the milk





DAIRY AND PASTEURIZATION PLANT

This model plant and herd of fine dairy cattle are located on the STICA farm at San Lorenzo de Campo Grande.

produced by the Holland-Argentine herd on the farm, about 800 liters are purchased daily from dairymen who have signed contracts for the production and delivery of milk under the hygienic conditions specified by the dairy.

#### *Storage and sale of food products*

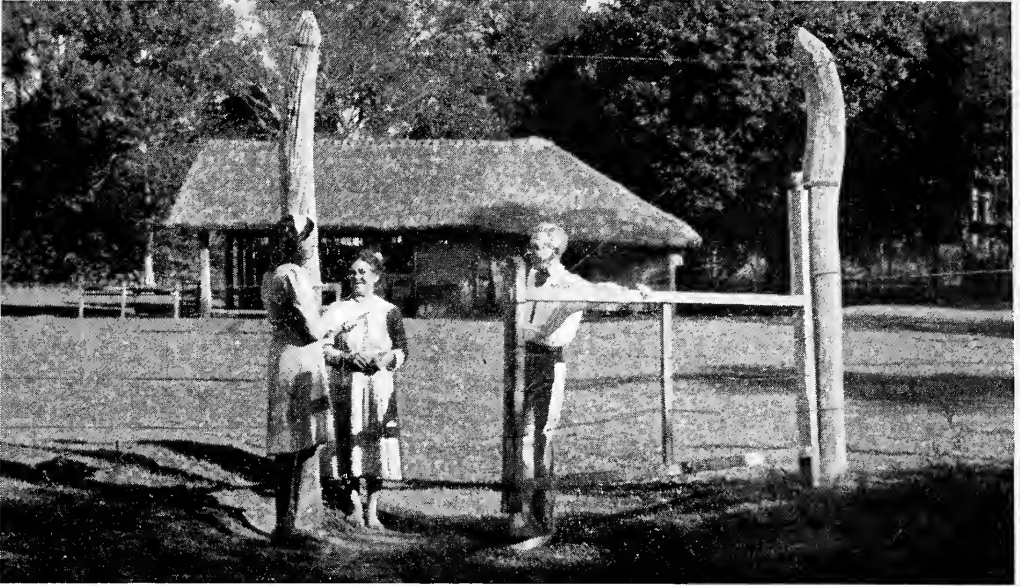
Recognizing that the lack of adequate marketing and storage facilities is one of Paraguay's most important agricultural problems, the Ministry of Agriculture asked STICA to make a study of the plans necessary for improving the situation. As a result of this survey, which revealed that the lack of storage and refrigeration facilities cost subtropical Paraguay thousands of dollars annually in damage by insects and climate, STICA recommended the construction of grain elevators in major grain-producing areas and a large cold storage plant and market in Asunción. The grain elevators located at Asunción, Villarrica, Encarnación, and Paraguarí are now under construction. Although delays in receiving essential machinery from the United

States have prevented completion of the cold storage plant in Asunción, it is expected to be in operation by January. Plans for the market building which will adjoin the refrigerated plant have been approved by the National Agricultural Bank, and construction is being started.

Refrigerated storage with wholesale and retail marketing facilities for Asunción is expected to insure a year-round supply of perishable and semi-perishable food commodities, thereby eliminating waste in marketing, improving the quality of the produce and contributing to the stabilization of prices. Producers are now forced to place fruits, vegetables and root crops on the market at harvest time, which loads the market for a short time and reduces prices below the cost of production. A few months later the consumer is often unable to buy this same product at any price.

#### *Surveys*

Because of the almost complete lack of authentic information regarding the geog-



#### CENSUS TAKING AT A PARAGUAYAN FARM HOME

A typical farmer and his wife stand at the gate of their neat farm home near Piribebuy and talk with the census taker. The STICA Farm Census Program's survey brought to light many interesting details of the lives and farms in the area covered.

raphy of Paraguay, STICA's programs were originally based on obvious impressions and deductions rather than on a scientific appraisal of the nation's agricultural problems. In an attempt to satisfy this need for accurate facts to be used in guiding the day-to-day activities of the food program, as well as to provide a basis for future action programs like those just described, STICA has conducted many significant surveys for the Paraguayan Government.

*Farm census.*—An account of the results of an agricultural census, the first ever taken in Paraguay, is being prepared for publication. This will present a general picture of Paraguayan farms, how they are operated and what they can produce. During the first year's work on the survey, more than 100,000 small isolated farms were visited by a mobile corps of 1,135 census takers trained by STICA. A staff of skilled workers then compiled and sum-

marized the vast amount of data collected. To inform the public of the progress of the census, data regarding the status of agriculture in the various departments were released to the press as they were compiled.

These data revealed that during 1942-43 a total of about 4,715,000 acres of Paraguay's land was utilized for farming. Of this amount about 835,000 acres were in actual cultivation. The area of land which had been abandoned because of its worn-out condition was approximately 330,000 acres. The census figures also showed that more land is devoted to the raising of corn than to any other crop; mandioca, cotton, beans, sugar cane and peanuts follow in order of importance.

*Soils.*—In the final stages of completion is a survey of main Paraguayan soil types. The information obtained will provide the basis for a soil classification map showing Paraguay's significant soil characteris-

tics, important vegetative types, principal adaptable crops, and a list of minimum practices necessary for soil and water conservation and increased crop production. Through the cooperation of the United States Army Air Corps, staff members working on the survey were flown over inaccessible parts of the Chaco area and regions just east of the Rio Paraguay to obtain data which would have taken a party of soil surveyors at least four years to complete.

*Forests.*—Even though the forests of Paraguay have been exploited for several centuries, wooded areas still cover nearly half the entire area of the country. Recently in an effort to assist Paraguay in planning the orderly development of its forestry industries, STICA completed a study of the forest resources of each department and district of the country east of the Paraguay River. This includes information concerning the several forest zones, the total amount of timber available, the degree and manner in which the zones have been exploited, sawmill facilities, cost of producing sawn lumber, and other pertinent data. The report of this survey is soon to be published; already a

discussion of Paraguay's forest products has been printed as one of a series of commodity reports. To date reports on hides and leathers, sugar cane, oil from the nuts of a palm (*Aerocomia totai*), and other vegetable oils have also been completed.

*Food consumption.*—In order to plan for the production of national food requirements, it was decided early in STICA's program to conduct a food consumption survey for the purpose of collecting accurate data on the types and quantities of food eaten and the nature of the dietary deficiencies in the country. Under the direction of a nutrition economist of the United States and with the aid of four Paraguayan women assistants, data were acquired during the past three years. These have now been compiled and analyzed and will be available in December as a special report of the Food Supply Division.

This report concludes that in order to better the Paraguayan diet it is not necessary to change the types of food now eaten nor to introduce new and strange products. But it is necessary to increase the consumption of some foods, and to do this the need for and value of these foods must be taught, along with scientific methods for growing



NORMAL SCHOOL STUDENTS, ASUNCIÓN

These bright-faced happy youngsters have gathered in the school patio for their morning glass of milk.

them in greater quantities. The most serious deficiencies in the Paraguayan diet—the lack of calcium and certain of the vitamins—can best be remedied by increasing the consumption of milk and green vegetables.

This in turn can be accomplished through expansion of educational facilities such as those offered by the Farm Credit Program and rural schools and by continued cooperation of the nation's doctors.

*Medicinal and aromatic plants.*—A serious difficulty confronting Paraguay is the high cost of transporting its products, because of its landlocked situation. It is evident that permanent benefit would be derived from the establishment of a basic industry with an exportable product of small volume, and therefore suitable for air transport, but of high unit value. For this reason STICA is conducting an investigation of the commercial possibilities of various plants indigenous to Paraguay which yield essential oils and of the prospects of introducing other such plants there.

Among the plants with which experiments have been conducted at the Institute

and on several plantations near Asunción are lemon grass, mint, patchouli, caraway, and vanilla. One of the most promising is a small plant yielding vegetable saccharine which lacks the undesirable characteristics of the coal-tar derivative. Another outstanding plant, known as *Capii Cedrón*, has an essence of excellent quality that has aroused the interest of New York perfumers and may well provide a new source of revenue for Paraguayan farmers.

By means of development programs such as those just described, STICA has not only demonstrated methods by which the status of agriculture in Paraguay can be improved, but has also emphasized, through its training program, the fact that the practical skills acquired in working with one's hands, while not necessarily superior to book knowledge, are indispensable complements to it. Thus when the present cooperative agreement is ended there will be experienced local technicians available to carry forward STICA's objective—the building of the agricultural economy Paraguay needs and can support.

# Miguel Alemán

## *President of Mexico*

ON July 7, 1946, the voters of Mexico went to the polls to elect a new president. The successful candidate was Miguel Alemán, a lawyer by profession and, during the past ten years, an increasingly distinguished figure in Mexican political affairs.

Miguel Alemán, the son of General Miguel Alemán and Doña Tomasa Valdés de Alemán, was born in 1900 in the town of Sayula, located in the Canton of Acayucan in the southern part of the State of Veracruz. At the outbreak of the Revolution, General Alemán joined its ranks without hesitation and fought staunchly throughout the course of the long struggle. As a consequence the family was often on the move and the scene of young Miguel's early education changed frequently. He attended school in Acayucan, Coatzacoalcos, Orizaba, and finally in 1917 he entered the Internado Nacional in Mexico City. In 1920 he became a student at the National Preparatory School, at a time when the influence of the great Mexican educator Gabino Barreda was still felt there and when such venerable and distinguished figures as Miguel Schultz and Federico Gamboa still met with the young students. In 1925 Alemán enrolled in the National Law School where his active mind and keen intelligence enabled him to complete the five-year course and receive his law degree in only three years. The subject he chose for his thesis—Responsibility for Occupational Diseases and Labor Accidents—was an unusual one at that time, when labor rights and legislation were



still very much in their formative stage in Mexico.

When Miguel Alemán opened his law office in 1928, he carried with him all the ideas of social justice that had taken root during a boyhood lived in the midst of the Mexican Revolution and shaped themselves even more definitely during his student days. The humble people, the workers, came to seek his counsel and his aid. Two outstanding examples of his professional work in this field may be cited. Before conciliation and arbitration boards he successfully pled the compensation claims of numerous widows and orphans of railway workers killed during the Revolution; and the many cases in which he acted to secure indemnities for mine workers who had become victims of silicosis were the first in the history of Mexican labor courts.

In 1930 his knowledge of the problems of the Mexican campesino and his studies of agrarian law led to his appointment as

consulting attorney for the Department of Agriculture. In 1935 President Lázaro Cárdenas appointed him Magistrate of the Superior Court of Justice of the Federal District and Federal Territories, a position in which he displayed unusual ability, knowledge of law, and a high sense of justice.

The year 1936 marked the beginning of Miguel Alemán's political career. The citizens of his native state had evidently been taking due note of his activities, for they elected him to the National Congress as Senator for Veracruz. His service in the Senate was short, however, for in November 1936 he was elected Governor of the State of Veracruz for the period 1936-40. Of that term of office he left a noteworthy record. For instance, he gave great impulse to public education, to which effort the many school buildings erected in Jalapa, Córdoba, Orizaba, Veracruz, and in innumerable rural communities bear firm testimony; and the construction of highways, so indispensable to the economic development of the agricultural regions of the state and to travel in general, was the object of special attention. The modernization and improvement of the port of Veracruz were also in large part Governor Alemán's work.

And ever the advocate of the laboring classes, he put into effect higher minimum wage regulations for workers in agriculture, trade, and industry, and established the State Department of Labor to help in the solution of labor conflicts and to cooperate with the Federal Government in all labor matters.

In 1939 Alemán sought and obtained permission of the State Legislature to leave the governorship and return to the Senate of the Republic. In 1939 and 1940 he directed General Ávila Camacho's campaign for the presidency and when the latter took office on December 1, 1940, Alemán was appointed Secretary of the Interior. As head of that Department, he displayed outstanding vigor and a sincerity and loyalty to his country and his fellow citizens that won him high regard and acclaim throughout the Republic. The Interior Department's efficient control of Axis subjects and interests during the war was only one of the many accomplishments that reflected the Secretary's able direction.

Señor Alemán resigned from the Cabinet in order to enter the 1946 presidential campaign. On December 1, 1946 he took the oath of office and embarked upon a six-year term as chief executive of his country.



# Columbus Day at the Pan American Union

COLUMBUS Day, October 12, 1946, was celebrated at the Pan American Union by a significant address delivered before a large gathering in the Hall of the Americas by the Ambassador of Nicaragua in Washington and Chairman of the Governing Board, Dr. Guillermo Sevilla Sacasa. A translation of Dr. Sevilla Sacasa's address follows:

At about this time on October 11, 1492, three light caravels were still sailing along with an uncertain destination, driven onward only by the fevered desire of an adventurous Genoese. Three caravels destined to change the whole concept of world geography, since, about to arrive at unknown beaches, they were destined to make the dazzling presentation of a New World, which would be in the course of time the symbol of liberty and peace, the living example of mutual respect and human solidarity.

They were the *Santa María*, the *Pinta*, and the *Niña*, in whose names the distinguished Spanish author, Salvador de Madariaga, has seen the representation of the spiritual qualities of the Three Latin Sisters: Italy, France, and Spain. The *Pinta* represented France with its diversity, its clarity of vision, its grace and charm, its liberty which borders on license, its elegance; the *Niña* represented Italy with its vitality, its pride, beauty, and romance, its sensibility; and the *Santa María* represented Spain with its religious passion, its conception of the unity of the world, its mysticism, and its gift of admirals, conquistadors, and monks.

They were guided by a humble man, the son of a poor weaver, and a group of brave sailors, with only the stars to mark the way. Searching the horizon, consumed with weariness, almost on the verge of complete despair, and inspired only by the unquenchable faith of the leader, they finally spied a faint light which, like the reflection of a hidden star, shone faintly among the shadows: "a will-o-the-wisp that rose and fell." It was a light hidden in the lands of America, the unknown World in which only the Genoese believed.

Thus it was that, conquering the mysterious

ocean, converting rumor into reality, contradicting legends, and "rising above nature and the incredulity of men," Christopher Columbus gave to the world a new Hemisphere which, rising from the waves at dawn on the following day, supplied the missing half of the earth.

The adventurous Genoese had become the genius of the seas, the conqueror of the ocean, and the unveiler of the globe. He revolutionized the course of humanity, doubling by the force of his prodigious will the area of the earth, and raising in those moments a monument to his own great courage. In the four and a half centuries that have followed, history has recorded very few deeds of such import. According to some thinkers, the effect of the feat of Columbus can be compared only to that of Christianity, the Renaissance, or the French Revolution.

That faint light which, according to the Admiral himself, was like "a will-o-the-wisp that rose and fell," was destined to become a powerful beacon shining in the lands of America, a guide to the future destinies of man "in his eternal longing for happiness and justice." To the land where this light appeared went conquistadors, travelers, missionaries, merchants, and colonists. The lack of opportunity in the Old World drew them to the New where they could develop their abilities with greater freedom. Thus the conquest and colonization of America were made possible. Eventually the colonies were impelled by the force of circumstances to break the ties that bound them to the mother countries, and enter upon an independent life as a group, held together by their republican institutions and their common democratic ideals.

Constituting a homogeneous and coherent whole, the young republics, which had been launched in international life by liberty and for liberty, were naturally inclined toward Pan Americanism—a political system conceived by the men of America to promote peace, law and order, humanitarianism, and justice. This system is characterized by cooperative action of unique structure, the like of which has not been known in any period of history, and by an active sense of American unity. It works for the welfare and unity of a family of independent nations, in respect

to their vital institutions, sovereignties, and customs. The system follows a "fundamental rule of international policy, based on unity and concord, open cooperation, and solidarity among the nations of the Continent." It works for the readjustment of sound interests, and for cooperation in the defense of this Hemisphere that Columbus gave us.

Perhaps there are some who think that Pan Americanism, that majestic undertaking in which the American nations are working hand in hand, encompasses the idea of a certain isolationism of the New World. This is not so. We Americans are simply demonstrating our genuine feeling of loyalty toward one another. We interpret Pan Americanism as the expression of the desire of the participating countries for political and economic bonds "to promote closer relations among our countries and create an atmosphere of continental brotherhood and solidarity." With such an atmosphere we can work harmoniously for the furtherance of our common interests in every field, achieving by collective action the effective and felicitous realization of the great destiny to which America is called in the universal concert of nations.

Pan Americanism is no isolated and exclusive concept. The American Republics have formed, developed, and unified their political ideology with the valuable support of the best liberal principles that have come to us from elsewhere and have here been gathered together and consecrated anew in national and international formulas.

"Here shall all Christians find comfort and good living," said the glorious Genoese, and the Continent he discovered, from Alaska to Cape Horn, has fulfilled his prophecy and become the protector of all men of good will. To the traveler who comes from other lands its nations offer protection and liberty, peace of mind and work, warmth and affection.

It is said that America is another name for human hope. It has been and continues to be the happy home of democracy, the unquestioned dwelling place of justice, the sure refuge of liberty, the authentic depository of one of the keys which guard the peace of the world. America is the dawn of the world, the land of promise and of love; enriched by the glory of its immortal heroes, it is soothed by the eternal music of its oceans, which join the currents of their green waters in a symbol of union and brotherhood.

Tonight we have come together to celebrate the

important date of America's discovery, so closely linked with the memory of the Mother Country. This Columbus Day we ought solemnly to meditate upon the future which destiny has pointed out to Americans, but we must bear in mind that to be worthy of America, we must be united as brothers, without reservation. For America there awaits a great role in the universal history of the present and of the future which it can fulfill only if united. Only thus can it be a source of energy and inspiration in the efforts to mold a happier and more peaceful world.

The happenings of recent years in the field of international relations are proof of the unity of purpose and of the well coordinated plan of action of these nations. These aims found their highest expression in the recent Conference of Chapultepec, which was itself an important factor in the world meeting that took place some weeks later in San Francisco.

We must continue to have a wide-awake consciousness of continental responsibility. We must be Americans of *one* America, fellow citizens of *one* Continent, as the Brazilian, Maia, expressed it when he said to Jefferson in 1787, "Nature has made us inhabitants of the same continent, and for that reason, in a certain sense, fellow citizens." Our America is overflowing with quickened energy, which can be made effective only through solidarity. Solidarity . . . listen well, gentlemen. Regional solidarity within world-wide solidarity. Solidarity, that we may successfully collaborate in the shaping of world peace.

Let us maintain it with honor and loyalty, so we may make ourselves worthy of the heritage of Bolívar and Roosevelt, the stoutest pillars of Pan Americanism. The Liberator and the Idealist. The former, inspired perhaps by the noble aims of his precursors, all sons of America, thinking of continental unity as a symbol of power, gave birth to the idea. The latter injected into it new vigor and modern spirit, making it the essence and the substance of American international law and sagely incorporating it into his Good Neighbor Policy, a realistic pattern in which nations are free and equal—a wise and generous policy that has been eloquently reiterated by his illustrious successor, President Truman. It is a pleasure to me, as an American, to say that Columbus discovered a world, Washington and Bolívar freed it, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt preserved and consolidated it.

Therefore on this day of the Great Admiral, of the "inspired and militant sailor," as the apostle of Cuban independence, José Martí, called him,



let us humble ourselves before this remarkable deed of valor, and may our America, the happy land he gave to the world, rise, in company with its heroes, to salute him.

The other feature of the Columbus Day celebration at the Pan American Union was the inauguration of an exhibit of portraits of the presidents of nineteen of the American Republics by Miss Mary D.

Burger of Los Angeles. Miss Burger did the paintings, which she refers to as personality portraits, during a recently completed year's tour of South and Central America and the island republics of the Caribbean area. Some of the backgrounds portray typical scenes of the respective countries. The portraits were well received by all those present.



MISS MARY D. BURGER WITH TWO OF HER PAINTINGS  
At the left is President Juan José Amézaga of Uruguay and at the right is President Juan Perón of Argentina

# Journey to the Past

## *Impressions of the Mexican Indian by two United States visitors*

HELEN W. FABER and RUTH PAGE LANSLEY

WE sat on a stone wall facing south across the Plazuela de Santo Domingo in Mexico City with our backs turned to the ancient church which was once the focal point of the Dominican Order in New Spain. A fine example of Baroque, the age- and battle-scarred structure had engaged our attention for several days, but after each visit to the church we had rested in the Plazuela for a moment to watch the stream of traffic crossing this square, only three blocks from the city's main plaza, the Zócalo.

Today we had made a special trip to the Plazuela from our small Mexican hotel. We were attracted, not by what had survived from four centuries of struggle and change, but by the Indians, descendants of the builders of an old culture, now gradually being drawn into the orbit of a new civilization.

Across the Plazuela they came—the carriers of a nation, bringing beans, onions, papayas, and a hundred other things to feed the capital, just as their ancestors had borne produce from the country to the court of Moctezuma. To people from the United States the loads these men carry on their backs and these women on their heads are incredible. We had become accustomed to this and were not really surprised one day to see a piano being transported on the bent-double figure of a man.

Because their figures are so bent the faces of the carriers are hardly visible. We had learned this when trying to take pictures of them. Their features were

lost in deep shadow and their broad-brimmed hats added to the difficulty. It occurred to us that these transporters of goods were to many observers only faceless figures—thousands of them, running at a characteristic jog-trot a little faster than a walk to coordinate the rhythmic swaying of the load with their footsteps. We could visualize a map of Mexico with thousands of pin points dotting its surface, each point representing one man or woman on an errand of collection or delivery, over mountain trails, along the concrete highways, here in the heart of Mexico City.

The pin-point comparison has validity, for the American is bound to be impressed by the tremendous human effort which goes into the distribution of goods south of the Rio Grande. It is impossible to see the new without contrasting it with the familiar and, being statistically minded (which Mexicans are not), the American, seeing one burro transporting ten gallons of milk a distance of eight miles, rapidly calculates how many burro-hours and man-hours are required to bring one day's milk supply to the city. Then, rather smugly perhaps, he figures how many milk trucks could do the same work with a far smaller number of man-hours and no burro-hours at all, leaving that hard-working little creature free, much to his delight, to browse all day.

Although we could not entirely escape such odious comparisons, we saved ourselves by our interest in those shaded faces. Here are human beings, not mere haulers of

goods to market. They bear the patient look of those who wrest their living from the earth, and there is a dignity in their manner which goes side by side with this patience. Within them is a fire which can burn brightly, as history proves, but most of the time it lies smouldering beneath the surface.

Where do they come from? we asked ourselves. Across the street, under the arcade that covers the sidewalk, an Indian approaches a well dressed man, dangling before his eyes a colorfully tempting sheet of lottery tickets. The man says no; he repeats his no, and turns away. The Indian persists. He would make a good Fuller brush salesman in the States, this countryman. His flow of language is eloquent and, figuratively, he has one foot in the door. However, the door is finally

shut with great firmness, not by anything the man says but by the traditional Mexican gesture which means, "No, a thousand times no!" The lottery-ticket salesman recognizes the gesture, knows he is licked, and turns away.

Our eyes go back to the Plazuela across which the capital's food is coming piecemeal. The man who refused the lottery ticket does not interest us. In his English-cut clothes, probably with a ticket to the Symphony in his pocket, he could be found in New York, London, Paris, or Madrid. But these countrymen of his are alien to us. We will never understand them. We can observe them closely for they do not resent our stares, not noticing them. They are too preoccupied with the serious business of making a living.

"I want to go out where they come



Photographs by Ruth Page Lansley

#### WEST SIDE OF THE PLAZUELA DE SANTO DOMINGO, MEXICO CITY

This time-worn plaza is one of the oldest in the city. The arcade shown here was erected in the time of the early viceroys.



INDIAN CARRIER

Incredible loads are transported on their backs by the Mexican Indians. Their trips from mountain villages and farms to town and city markets often mean many miles of travel.

from," one of us said. It was noon now and the trotting figures were fewer. They would be eating tortillas on some street corner, or corn roasted on a brazier set up on the curb. Some would be curled up in doorways for a siesta, a heavy serape serving as pillow and shield against the heat, dust, and noise of the city streets. Soon they would be on their way back to their villages.

We rode up in a modern elevator that always works and took a table on a roof overlooking the Zócalo. Below us we saw, in imagination, not the great Cathedral, but the Palace of Moctezuma, where the defenders of the Aztec capital had held off the invader. The descendants of the units of that uneasily-cemented empire were hurrying back to their thatched

huts in the mountains. The curious traveler could never hope to enter such a hut, with camera slung on shoulder, and feet protected by shoes whose cost would support a campesino family for months, but he could ride with the barefoot owners of those huts on their busses, learning something at least about the surface aspects of life in their villages as he rode along.

The second-class busses start southeast of the Zócalo. Seats are not reserved. When a bus is ready to start there is a rush for the entrance and, if windows are open, men and boys will climb through to beat others to seats. The friendly young driver of the bus we planned to take had apparently decided rightly that we, as foreigners, were either incompetent or unwilling to take part in this rush for seats, and when it was over and the bus seemed full, he slipped through the crowd and quietly informed us that the front seat just behind his place was unoccupied except by certain parcels belonging to him. Naturally we were grateful.

Even after the bus is crowded more people arrive. Some stand, others sit on the floor. Everyone has at least one bundle, some four or five; some carry large sacks of vegetables, baskets of tomatoes, live chickens. There is no denying the bus is crammed to the last inch, but the crowding is somehow friendly and nobody appears ill-tempered or irritated. The conductor, a mere boy riding outside on a step at the rear, slaps the side of the bus briskly and shouts "*Vámonos*," and off we go with a tremendous jerk.

We whizz through narrow streets where sidewalks are as crowded with markets as the roadway is with traffic. We careen around corners, cross an occasional open square, pass through the less crowded suburbs, and finally reach the open country. As we ride across the beautiful valley

towards the distant hills, through fertile fields and wide grazing lands, past small villages and great farms, there is time to look about at our fellow passengers.

An old man is sitting on the floor at our feet. He has placed his bundle so that he can lean against it and thus partially cushion the bumping of the bus and rest his back at the same time. His dark face is as weather-beaten as a mountain crag; he is dressed in the white cotton pajama-like suit worn by so many Indians; over his shoulder he carries a rolled brown serape, combination coat, raincoat, and blanket; he is barefoot and his feet are as tough, dark, and horny as the stones they have trod upon. Superficially there is not much to distinguish him from hundreds of others, but that is all we shall ever know about him. His face is as impassive as a wall. We wonder if he resents a foreigner occupying a seat while he sits on the floor. We can never know.

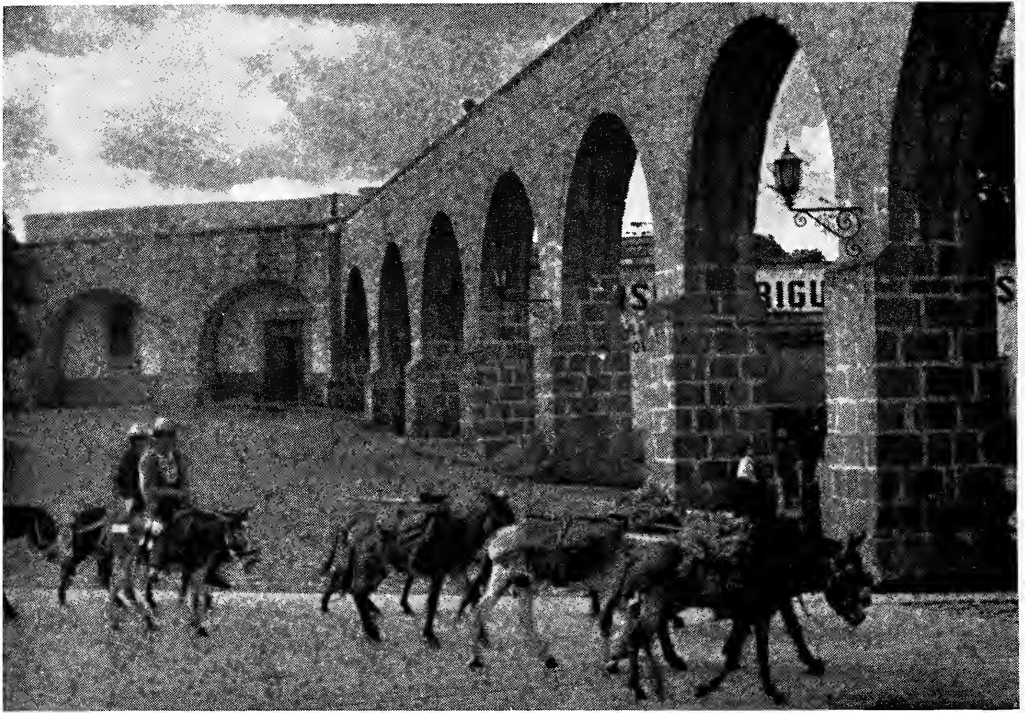
Across the aisle sits a lame man holding a knotty cane between his knees, resting his hands and chin upon it. He may not be old but he is not young. There seems to be no middle age, no mellow period when the flexibility of youth blends happily with experience and maturity. These people look old when they do not look young. They do not pursue a false illusion of youth for its own sake, for its business or barter value; possibly they do not think much about youth or age but accept the flow of years without question as part of *el destino*—fate. Again we shall never know. This young-old man has oriental features. There is a Mongolian look about him. It is not uncommon but is nevertheless surprising. Perhaps here is material for more ethnological research.

We have moved over to the extreme edge of our seat in order to share it with an Indian woman who now sits beside us. Her head comes about to our elbows. The

child on her lap is no larger than a good-sized doll and looks somewhat like a doll, riding in perfect stillness sitting upright on its mother's knee. Its face and tiny hands look old, not young. On its little lap it holds a live red hen, also riding in perfect stillness. When the baby turns her head we smile at her and presently she smiles faintly in return. That flicker of friendliness on the grave little face seems a minor triumph. Mother rearranges her bundle slightly, asking softly if it bothers us. We are glad the question is in Spanish and not some strange Indian dialect, and assure her it does not. She nods and there are more miles of silence broken only by the rattling of the loose-jointed bus. Presently we notice a faint sourish odor and see that she has produced from somewhere in her bundle a handful of mash which she is



A VILLAGE STREET IN THE VALLEY OF MEXICO



PACK TRAIN LEAVING MORELIA

The small sure-footed burro is still an important bearer of burdens in Mexico's outlying regions.

offering to the chicken. Although this creature is probably on its way to the pot its appetite is unclouded by worry. It pecks up the mash greedily from the woman's palm, and when it has eaten its fill the woman divides the remainder and she and the baby finish it.

Our talks with travelers on second-class busses, with bus drivers, with the tortilla seller on the corner near our hotel, and with others impressed us with the friendliness of these men and women, but they remained an enigma in spite of their willingness to answer our questions. It is trite to say there is mystery about the Indian but it is true and the haunting presence of this mystery is never far away. We met the Indians everywhere, and we wondered what they were thinking about us—camera-laden *Yanquis* for whom they

graciously consent to pose! What do they think about the land from which they wrest a living? About the country to which they belong? How do they come to terms with life?

We could not know how many of these people were truly Indian. Of the total population of Mexico, about 38 per cent have practically pure Indian blood, but another 43 per cent are mestizo. However, not being ethnologists, we found patterns of life more interesting than statistics and came to see that the people in whose veins Indian blood flows use their lives for very different purposes from those of the non-Indian, although what these purposes are we do not know.

Something can be learned about the Indian from watching him at work and at play. He is a craftsman of considerable



skill, with a light hand and a characteristic touch in the making and decoration of useful objects. He loves flowers. He is at once solitary and gregarious; living often in isolated huts or remote villages, but taking advantage of every market and saint's day to foregather with his fellows. He is a shrewd bargainer in the barter and sale of his products but his acumen does not bring him wealth. He is patient, accepting the harsher side of existence with little attempt to bend nature to the service of his own comfort, convenience, or need—and this, perhaps, is what he means by *el destino*.

As a matter of fact, we had known these things before we ever set foot on Mexican soil, but actual observation sharpened our perception. To say, "The Indian is patient," is one thing. It is quite another to see him toiling up a mountain side in the rain with an enormous burden on his back, accepting alike his lot and the vagaries of climate with an acquiescence which is perhaps neither wholly indifference nor wholly resignation, but still remains an unresisting acceptance. So we went on talking and listening, and began to realize the magnitude of the task the government has set itself in drawing the Indian into the common life of the country. Native and non-Indian populations have lived side by side in Mexico for over four hundred years and the increasing complexity of the modern world has touched the Indian but lightly. We kept reminding ourselves that three million of them neither speak Spanish, the national language, nor understand it when it is spoken; and many other millions who can speak and understand it have not yet learned to read or write.

Although we knew we could not in a few months pierce the mystery that has shrouded the Indian for generations, we were curious to see the places from which

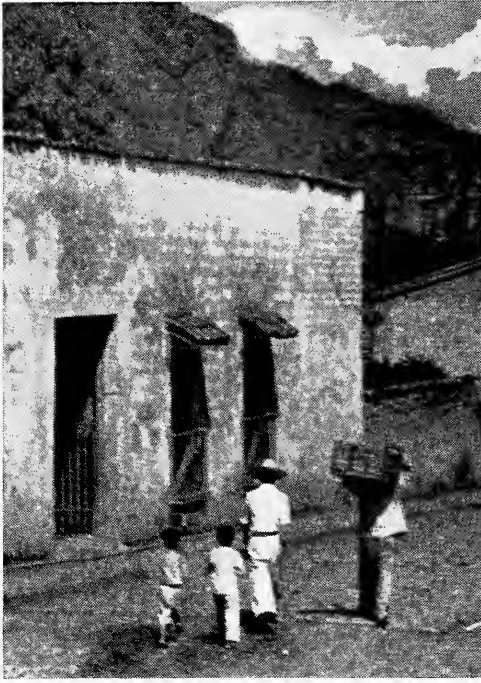
they come to sell their goods in the cities. We wanted to get off, figuratively, at the other end of the bus line and follow these men and women towards their homes.

The farthest outpost of our search was reached, not in a remote mountain village, but in the open country near Morelia, capital of the State of Michoacán. In that town guides will take you to the cathedral, to the waterworks, to the college and the museum,—but no guide would be needed for the trip we planned. It was market day and pack trains were pouring into town. We would simply go in the direction from which they were trotting in with their loads of lumber, baskets, pottery, corn. Many of them were coming from the south. Accordingly, southward we went, and emerged from the city on a street which became a wide,



CACTUS FENCE

The advantages of the ingenious cactus fences that so often surround Mexican Indian homes are many; they are negligible in cost, impenetrable and unscalable, and nature can take care of repairs.



A STREET IN TEPOZTLÁN

This small Indian village is located in the State of Morelos.

tree-shaded road. It was raised above the level of the plain but paralleled by a muddy dirt track on the lower level along which came city-bound burros and ox-carts.

We went through woods, through a dismal abandoned little park. When the Guadalajara bus, crammed to its roof, swung past us, turned to the left and disappeared over the hill, we believed we were near our goal, for here the burro-track parts company with the highway and strikes out on its own. It keeps to the level for a little way but soon crosses the hill in a different direction from that taken by the bus. On the other side of this hill we found what we had come so far to see.

Silhouetted against the vivid blue sky at the top of a zigzag, rocky track were six burros and three men. They were on

their way down, but for that first second they appeared transfixed. Soon they moved, leaving their sky backdrop like actors advancing on a stage, and became moving dots on the wild slope, winding this way and that, each choosing his own route over the rocks and gullies to find his surest footing.

They crossed a small bridge, and we saw that one burro was still a little fellow, a *burrito*. His elders each dragged long planks fastened at their sides which clanked with every step, but the *burrito* was too young to carry a burden. He was learning his trade, seeking by emulation to win his place in the pack train. At the bridge he paused, perplexed, for the bridge was only two rough logs. His perplexity was abruptly ended by a shove from the rear and he bounced on. Soon that youthful bounce will give way to the gravity characteristic of the grown burro, but while he is still an apprentice a little jauntiness is tolerated. The man who taught the *burrito* what a bridge is for waved a greeting to us, but the others only stared in surprise. Obviously tourists do not get out this way.

We looked up the trail again. It was luminous and brilliant with flowers. Half-way a hut with a cliff-dweller look about it was fitted into the hillside. Out of its neatly fenced yard an unwilling, angry black cow came plunging down the rough slope, bellowing loudly and followed by an excited herder. We ducked to one side. A couple passed on foot. The man's looks were unfriendly; we knew he felt us to be intruders and the "*Adiós*" died on our lips. But the woman who followed him turned shyly as she passed. "*Adiós*," she said softly. She had a lovely face and a smile with the Mexican sun in it.

At the hilltop we sat on a stone fence and were silent. The burros were still picking their way downhill behind us, and ahead



was the vast, gray plain, rolling away for miles until it broke against the distant mountain barrier. There was only one visible road in all that expanse, wide and rough; bordered by low stone walls on each side as if to hold off encroachment by the fields it serves; its bridges had collapsed, leaving men and animals to clamber up stony banks of dry streambeds the hard way, the way of their ancestors before the age of bridges. But this one road is fed by dozens of paths. Across the plain from all directions they come, taking the way of least resistance around big boulders and clumps of scrub and cactus. Here at last is the other end of the funnel,—the big end.

Before a hut not far away we saw a man making the skillful twists of rope which hold a load of firewood firmly on a burro's back. When he is ready to unload, the rope will be loosened just as skillfully so that the faggots will drop in neat piles, one on each side of the animal, without so much as grazing his little hooves. The man's companion had loaded a big sack on each side of another burro, but the animal refused to move. The men conferred on this problem. Finally the load was readjusted, although not decreased. The burro was satisfied. It was not weight he objected to, but distribution. While we watched this a rider approached and passed, perched precariously on the rumble seat of his burro. Seemingly he had left room for a load to be carried in front of his seat, but there was no such load and the effect was amusing.

It was impossible to spend an hour here without thinking of Mexico as a whole. We thought of the map again with the moving pin points, each point a laden man, woman, or burro,—the primitive, picturesque distribution system of so much of Mexico. We imagined it in terms of a relief map. The pin points start out

from sun-drenched adobe huts, whiter than any other white against the shining blue sky. The moving points go down little paths, turn into the road, scramble over the ruins of washed-out bridges; stand brilliantly against the sky on the hilltop for a second, descend the long slope into the town, wind through the city streets to the vast market building—the end and focus of all this country-wide activity. We watched this big end of the funnel for a long time.

On the way back we came upon a particularly beautiful specimen of the organ cactus and perched ourselves on a low stone fence near a flower-bordered hut to focus our cameras.

"Someone is cooking tortillas in that house," one of us said. Just then a woman came out, leaned over the fence some distance away and stared at us without hospitality. We smiled but there was no



YOUNG MEXICO FACES THE CAMERA

response. She was alarmed and not quite sure what to do about it. She might have been washing her hair, for it fell about her in long, thick, shining, black folds. Two *Yanquis* with small glittering objects in their hands through which they squinted at the neighbor's house across the way were not welcome on her fence. We did not wish to offend, so we moved out into the middle of the road, refocusing on the pipe-like stems of the cactus. This was not much better. Even in the road we were a menace. She called to her neighbor but, getting no response, sent her small daughter to bear a warning. We saw the child flit across the road and disappear behind the cactus. Excited conversation about the danger followed. Feeling ourselves to be disturbers of the peace, we hastily pressed the button and moved on. This is their country, their road, their cactus, we told ourselves. How should *we* like a gang of foreigners picknicking on our front lawn?

We turn into the Guadalajara highway. After the trail we have seen it is just another road, something to be hurried over. If we hurry a little we can reach the big market building and its acres of stalls before dinner time. Then, after a steak *à l'anglaise* and a walk about the plaza, we shall sit in the softly lighted patio of the hotel with the southern stars overhead, remembering the day's adventure. We have seen the burros starting out on their long journeys; men and women beginning the trek that ends in the market stall or curbstone booth of a nearby village or distant town. We have seen a spirited cow expending a great deal of energy fruitlessly fighting *el destino* on a lonely slope. We have seen the little *burrito* learning the ropes, with his youthful bounce still in him. And a shy Indian woman has called "*Adiós*" to us and not resented our presence on the ancient trail of her people.



# In Our Hemisphere—IV

## Christmas Customs

### Brazil

IN Brazil, as elsewhere, Christmas is a season of fond memories. Also, as in the rest of the world, its religious origin is oftentimes obscured by the many secular and material elements which have crept into its observance.

Every country has its own individual way of expressing the sentiments of its people. The Christmas tree is not a part of the Latin tradition, but it is one of the many innovations brought into Brazil from Anglo-Saxon countries. Two traditions that have much deeper roots in Brazil are the *crèche* and the celebration of the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

Early in December, everyone in the Brazilian home hustles about setting up the *crèche*, with the Christ Child lying in the manger, and around Him, Joseph, Mary, and the Magi. This representation of the Nativity may be very simple, but occasionally it becomes exceedingly elaborate, perhaps filling one or more rooms of the house. It is often a delightful hodge-podge of glaring anachronisms, in which the pastoral calm of Bethlehem mingles with the latest developments of the machine age: the shepherds out on the plain, overcome with the heavenly vision . . . wild grottoes . . . barren deserts . . . little white wells . . . Brazilian *muniolos*<sup>1</sup> . . . electric trains speeding on furiously, as though seized with a frenzy . . . white sailboats or up-to-date steamers plying the blue waters of the sea . . . and daring planes flying low over the picturesque stable . . . a comprehensive in-

terpretation of the past in which all human achievements are summoned and innocently and tenderly presented to the Holy Child.

In the larger Brazilian cities the more conservative families still keep Christmas Eve as it was kept in olden days and as it is still observed in small communities of the interior. The whole family gathers together, including all the married children and a flock of happy grandchildren. A household of less patriarchal dimensions will often join with friends to while away the long hours until time to go to church. December is summertime in Brazil. A playful breeze comes through the window, and there may be music and dancing, and certainly there will be much merry conversation. Meanwhile the children enjoy their own amusements in another room. They may pleasantly pass away the time with games of forfeits, or perhaps, in a quieter mood, sing *roda*<sup>2</sup> songs known to their forebears centuries ago. As midnight draws near, everyone finds his way to the church for the Midnight Mass.

As they return home, the aromas coming from the dining room proclaim that the sumptuous Christmas supper is ready. Although the Brazilian Christmas feast includes no single traditional dish, there is usually a turkey on the table. In bygone years, as in the interior today, the varied menu might include among many delicacies roast pig, African *cuscuz* (a steamed—not baked—fish pie made of corn meal, cassava flour, sardines, shrimp,

<sup>1</sup> A primitive type of water-mill used in the south of Brazil for grinding grain.

<sup>2</sup> Game in which the children join hands in a circle and go through various gestures as they sing traditional songs.



TYPICAL NACIMIENTO FIGURES

These polychrome wood carvings of the Three Wise Men are from Ecuador and date from the early 18th century.

and seasonings), or fried shrimp as the principal feature of the meal, which would be duly brought to a close by a bewildering assortment of wonderful Brazilian desserts. Here is the Brazilian method of preparing the fried shrimp:

Ingredients: 2 lbs. green shrimp; 2 eggs and 3 egg yolks; 1 tbsp. butter; onion, tomatoes, lemon juice, bay leaf, parsley, salt, black pepper; olive oil; flour; cracker meal.

Wash and shell the shrimps (do not shell their tails). Stick a toothpick in each one to keep them straight. Season with salt, pepper, and lemon juice, and let stand overnight. Next day heat olive oil in a pan, add sliced onion and tomato, parsley, bay leaf, and any other desired seasoning. Add the shrimps, cover pan, and let fry for 15 minutes over a moderate flame. Then pour in some water, cover, and let cook for about 45 minutes. Take out the shrimps and add enough flour to the liquid to make a very light batter. Remove it from the fire, slowly add 3

egg yolks, one by one, beating gently all the while. Cook the mixture for another 5 minutes, then add the butter and let it cool. Sprinkle your hands with flour; dip the shrimps in the mixture, allowing their tails to stick out; then dip them in 2 beaten eggs to which 4 tbsp. of cold water were added. Roll them in cracker meal and fry in deep fat over a hot flame.

—L. M. S.

## Colombia

As the Eve of Christmas settles down over the cities, towns, and villages of Colombia, a foreigner peeping into the houses, large and small, rich and poor, will look upon a scene no doubt already familiar to him. He will see Christmas trees, pine branches, Spanish moss, flowers, and, in a prominent place in the living room, the Christmas crib. The cribs may be simple or elaborate, according to the means of the

family, but all will surely have their background of fine blue muslin strewn with silver stars; their small clay figures, some of them imported from far-off countries and others, perhaps the majority, made by native craftsmen in Ráquira and other Colombian villages; the Holy Family, the shepherds with their sheep, and the Three Kings; and, giving light and life to the whole, there will be glimmering candles and small colored lanterns. Gathered round the crib will be the children, singing *villancicos*, old Christmas carols, to the accompaniment of guitars and other stringed instruments.

But if the stranger stays a little longer, he will witness a Christmas Eve custom that will undoubtedly be different from those he may have observed elsewhere. He may even for a moment lose his sense of time and think that it is Hallowe'en or Mardi Gras, for at about nine o'clock on Christmas Eve, in Bogotá, in Popayán, in small towns in the Departments of Cauca and Tolima, and in many other places, he will see happy laughing groups of people coming out of the houses, dressed in masquerade costumes. For Christmas Eve is the night of the *aguinaldos*, or presents, when everyone disguises himself with fancy dress and mask and goes out to make merry in the streets. But the merry-making and masquerade have a definite plan, too. The idea is that everyone tries to recognize a friend in spite of the disguise, and when someone's identity is discovered, the discerning person claims an *aguinaldo* or gift from the one he recognized. This jolly custom is especially popular with the young people, and above all with sweethearts, for the disguises are kept secret and each tries to outwit the other and be the first to win the *aguinaldo*.

As midnight approaches, it will be observed that the masqueraders disappear from the streets and a stillness descends

that is broken at last by the glad peal of the church bells, calling the populace to the Midnight Mass. After the Mass, which everyone attends, families and friends gather in their homes for the customary Christmas Eve repast. This is a rich feast of tamales, chicken or turkey or roast pig, and for dessert, of course, *buñuelos* served with golden honey.

The feasting and fun continue among the grown-ups until the early morning hours, but the children, wiser than their elders and full of confidence, go off to bed, first carefully placing their shoes on the window sills or in the corridors. They know that while they sleep, the Christ Child and the Three Kings will come to fill the shoes with a long anticipated store of toys and bonbons.

Since the *buñuelos* mentioned above are such a popular Christmas dessert, not only in Colombia but in many other Latin American countries as well, the reader



LITTLE HORSE FROM RÁQUIRA,  
COLOMBIA

This small pottery figure might be found in a *nacimiento* scene in any Colombian home.

might like to try making some. Here is a recipe for one variety:

Ingredients:  $2\frac{1}{2}$  oz. butter;  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar; 3 eggs, well beaten; grated rind of 1 lemon; 1 cup water; flour.

Mix butter, sugar, and lemon rind well together. Add eggs, water, and enough flour to make a soft dough. Spread the dough out on a kneading board and cut off small pieces. Drop in deep fat, which must not be too hot. When brown, remove and drain on paper. Serve sprinkled with powdered sugar and cinnamon, or with syrup or honey.

—E. C. S.

## Mexico

Mention Christmas to a student in Boston and he will think of carolers in the snow, gaily colored Christmas cards, and the mad rush of Christmas shopping. Mention it to a student in Mexico City and

he will think of *posadas* and *piñatas*, the fascination of the *puestos*, and the enchantment of *nacimientos* or crèches in every home.

The *posadas*, perhaps the most typically Mexican Christmas custom, begin on December 16 and continue for nine evenings, ending on Christmas Eve. They are conducted in private homes by family gatherings and intimate friends and represent the wanderings of Joseph and Mary seeking shelter before the birth of Jesus. Part of the gathering forms a procession and wanders from room to room and round the patio, carrying the images of Joseph and Mary and singing the Litany. The others, representing the innkeepers, remain in the living room. When the pilgrims reach the living room door they sing:



Photo by Juan Guzmán

### A MEXICAN CHRISTMAS PARTY

The blindfolded guest at the left has just succeeded in breaking the *piñata* and the children are scrambling for the falling gifts.

In the name of Heaven  
 We beg lodging  
 My beloved wife  
 Is weary.

In the musical dialogue that follows the people inside refuse admittance until they discover the importance of the travelers, when they throw open the door and sing:

Come in, holy pilgrims  
 Come into our humble dwelling.  
 Come into our hearts.  
 The night is one of joy, of joy  
 For here beneath our roof  
 We shelter the Mother of God.

The pilgrims enter, and a few prayers are said to end the religious part of the *posada*.

Then comes the fun of the *piñata*. This is a large earthenware jar, covered with tissue paper or straw, perhaps shaped as a bird, airplane, doll, fairy, or even a popular comedian, and filled with candies, fruits, nuts, and toys. The *piñata* is suspended from the ceiling and there is much merriment as each guest is blindfolded and given a chance to try to break it with a stick. When it is finally broken there is a gay scramble for the scattered contents.

On Christmas Eve the procession of the pilgrims is climaxed by the placing of the figure of the Child Jesus in the *nacimiento*. Then the whole gathering goes to Midnight Mass, called the *Misa del Gallo* (Mass of the Cock). After the Mass they return home for the traditional Christmas Eve supper. Favorite Christmas dishes include tamales and chocolate and *buñuelos*.

Mexican homes are decorated at Christmas time with festoons of Spanish moss, evergreen branches, colored paper lanterns, and flaming branches of poinsettias, native to Mexico and called there the *Flor de Noche Buena* or Flower of Christmas Eve. Center of the decorations is the *nacimiento* representing the nativity scene. This varies from a miniature stable with

tiny figures of the Holy Family, the shepherds, and the Three Kings to an elaborate reproduction of the Bethlehem countryside that sometimes fills three rooms, complete with green-carpeted hills, roads of white sand, and streams of real water.

Articles needed for the *posadas*, *piñatas*, and *nacimientos* are sold in the colorful canvas-roofed *puestos* that spring up in Mexico City about the middle of December. Rich and poor mingle in these temporary shops to buy the artistic figurines, paper lanterns, colored candles, and other adornments created by the skillful hands of village artisans.

Christmas Day remains a purely religious holiday. Although the Santa Claus legend and the Christmas tree are making inroads in the larger cities, the custom of exchanging gifts on Christmas has still not been widely adopted. Mexican children have to wait until January 6—the day of the Magi—for their gifts. On the eve of that day they leave their shoes in the windows or out on the balcony where, as the legend goes, they are filled with presents by the Three Wise Men.—M. G. R.

## Nicaragua

Come, little shepherds,  
 Come and adore  
 The King of Heaven,  
 The newborn King.  
 A lowly roof  
 Shelters his head;  
 His cradle, a manger,  
 His temple, a stall.  
 (Old carol)

The celebration of Christmas in Nicaragua retains many customs of Old Spain which, despite the influences of other civilizations, still exist in all the American republics of Catholic faith.

Strictly speaking, Christmas may be



#### WORSHIPING SHEPHERDS

Shepherds such as these occupy central places in *nacimientos* everywhere. Like the Three Wise Men, these particular figures are polychrome wood carvings from Ecuador.

called the Festival of Childhood. Its celebration begins early in Nicaragua, being initiated even before the end of November with the period of adoration of the Virgin. Bearing fragrant bouquets of wild flowers for the altar of the Virgin, children throng the streets singing carols to the Queen of Heaven. Their exuberance reaches its peak on the morning of December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and not until midnight does the noise of the horns, of the marimbas, and even of the merry-makers themselves fade away. On December 16, the faithful begin the celebration of their annual Novena to the Holy Child.

December 24 is a day of excitement for young and old. Parents reflect upon the best means of distributing the carefully guarded toys, and the children gaily participate in arranging the Nativity, the manger with its familiar wooden, plaster,

or cardboard figures of the Virgin, Saint Joseph, the angels, the shepherds and their sheep, and the mule and the ox. Palm trees, green sawdust, tinsel, and colored lights complete the picture. The manger lies empty, ready to receive at midnight the figure of the Infant Jesus. Overhead a great silver star is hung to guide the Three Wise Men on their journey from the east.

Everywhere is heard the prattling of the eager children. The mothers issue the final call to the Christmas Eve feast which, according to the purse of the family, will consist of turkey, a stuffed hen, or the humbler *nacatamales*. This especially savory tamale, made of ground corn with a filling of turkey, chicken, or pork and raisins, almonds, olives, and chili, wrapped in banana leaves, is found on every table at Christmas time. Wine, coffee, or chocolate may be served, with *sopa borracha* for dessert. The latter consists of slices of a plain cake made with corn meal or rice flour and covered with rum-flavored syrup.

The Novena to the Christ Child is concluded with the celebration of the Midnight Mass. The morning of Christmas Day itself is one of general rejoicing. The delight of the little ones on receiving the coveted assortment of new toys spreads contagiously to their elders, and relatives, friends, and servants all partake equally of the munificence of the Holy Child.

A recent innovation is the Anglo-Saxon custom of the Christmas tree, and it is not uncommon to find, in the room with the manger, a tree—usually artificial—laden with bright colored balls, wreaths, and icicles, and at its foot, gifts for all the members of the household.—A. S. D.

(Next month: Indian Groups in Latin America)



# Postwar Measures in the American Republics—XI

Compiled by Dorothy M. Tercero<sup>1</sup>

## *Economic Development*

ASSISTANCE to Brazilian air lines in the period of postwar organization and development was granted by the Government of *Brazil* through Decree-Law No. 9483 of July 18, 1946. This measure applied a two-year consumer's tax exemption to all imports of parts and accessories for airplanes. (*Diário Oficial*, July 20, 1946.)

The capital of the Agricultural Production Development Section of the National Bank of *Costa Rica* was increased in the sum of 4.5 million colones (the colón equals \$0.177 U. S.) by Legislative Decree No. 632 of July 23, 1946. This new increase brought the total working capital of that section of the Bank to 8 million colones. Certain taxes have been earmarked to cover any losses that the Agricultural Production Development Section may undergo in its operations, in order always to maintain the working capital at the 8-million level. Any surplus from the tax collections will be allocated to the establishment of a capital of 2 million colones for a section of the Bank for the development of agricultural and industrial cooperatives. Meantime, even before the new fund of 2 million colones is established, the Bank is authorized to make loans to organized cooperatives whenever such operations are considered desirable for the nation. (*La Gaceta*, July 31, 1946.)

<sup>1</sup> Assisted in research by Clara Cutler Chapin and Mary G. Reynolds.

## *Export, import, price, funds, and other controls*

According to *La Prensa*, Buenos Aires, July 19, 1946, *Argentine* shoe manufacturers have been required by presidential decree to apply at least 10 percent of their total production to the manufacture of low-cost shoes for infants, children, and adults, in such manner that not less than 900,000 pairs can be produced in the following five months. The decree further stipulates that the shoes must conform to certain standard samples. Shoe retailers are also obliged to acquire and offer these low-priced shoes for sale in certain fixed proportions of their average shoe sales during the first half of the current year.

A few weeks of experience demonstrated the desirability of changes in *Costa Rica's* decree of June 7, 1946, that fixed priorities for the expenditure of foreign exchange derived from exports (see BULLETIN, October 1946, p. 577). Executive Decree No. 35 of July 25, 1946, repealed the earlier decree and substituted therefor new priority regulations. Imports for which foreign exchange will be made available are divided into three categories. The first includes specified foodstuffs, textiles, clothing, pharmaceutical supplies, petroleum products, paper, paints, industrial and farm machinery, building materials, cattle, fertilizers, seeds, and other miscellaneous commodities essential to national life. The second category consists of such articles as photographic equipment, radios, automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles, electric re-

frigerators, and specified food and clothing items. The third category covers all current imports not enumerated in the other two lists. (*La Gaceta*, July 27, 1946.)

The difficulties of securing foreign exchange had for some time been causing trouble to Costa Rican importers, who were unable to get their goods out of customs promptly. While the Government expected this situation eventually to adjust itself, it was considered advisable to take steps to avoid any further increase in the price of imported articles. Therefore, Presidential Decree No. 40 of August 1, 1946 granted free storage in customs warehouses for one month for dutiable imports, while the time on duty-exempt goods was reduced to 10 days. The month's free storage would enable importers to arrange for payment for their goods, and no storage charges would have to be added to the ultimate cost of the imports to the consumer. (*La Gaceta*, August 2, 1946.)

Increased costs of petroleum production and distribution in *Mexico* led to a price increase, both wholesale and retail, for gasoline throughout the Republic, authorized by a decree of September 10, 1946, and effective on publication in the *Diario Oficial* of September 17, 1946.

Of importance to motor transportation in *Guatemala* was a presidential resolution of July 20, 1946, which repealed wartime regulations requiring motor vehicle owners to turn in used tires when they purchased new ones. The same resolution required tire importing agencies to deliver to the Economic Stabilization Office their stocks of used tires, and this Office in turn was authorized to sell the used tires. (*Diario de Centro América*, July 31, 1946.)

Following an emergency agreement between the Government of *Guatemala* and national cement producers on July 17, 1946, a Cement Distribution Commission was established by a presidential

resolution of July 23. Its duty will be to attain an equitable distribution of that important product. The resolution outlines in detail the system of applications and assignments to be followed, and gives the Minister of Economy authority to fix prices for the sale of both domestic and imported cement. As long as the need for cement continues to be urgent, all exports of the product are prohibited. (*Diario de Centro América*, August 7, 1946.)

Complaints of bakers and the general public about the excessively high price of domestic and imported wheat in *Guatemala* caused the Economic Stabilization Office of that country to undertake a study of the matter. This study revealed that the price increases of recent months had been unjustified and the Ministry of Economy and Labor therefore issued a resolution fixing both prices for flour and maximum profits for flour importers and retailers. (*Diario de Centro América*, July 18, 1946.)

Authority to import oils and fats to meet national demands during the remainder of 1946 was granted to the National Production Council of *Costa Rica* by Legislative Decree No. 679 of August 22, 1946. The Council was authorized to enter into agreements with importers that will permit the latter to do the importing, providing they furnish sufficient guarantee that the goods will arrive and be properly distributed. In these cases the Council will also determine the selling price and will furthermore maintain throughout the emergency sufficient quantities of oils and fats to form a buffer stock. (*La Gaceta*, August 23, 1946.)

New regulations concerning the sending of funds abroad were issued by the Department of the Treasury of *Mexico* on June 8, 1946. Special authorization is required

now only for sending funds to Germany, Japan, Austria, Rumania, Hungary, and Bulgaria. The only restriction on transfers of funds to other countries is that the transfers must not affect blocked funds. The same regulations apply to orders of payment received from abroad in Mexico. All operations with any country referring to gold, however, still require special authorization from the Bank of Mexico, in

accordance with existing regulations. (*Diario Oficial*, September 10, 1946.)

Unrestricted circulation of United States currency in denominations of 50 and 100 dollars was authorized by an executive decree in *Costa Rica* on July 26, 1946. A previous decree had already removed war-time currency restrictions from 5-, 10-, and 20-dollar United States bills. (*La Prensa Libre*, San José, July 27, 1946.)

## Women of the Americas

### Notes from the Inter-American Commission of Women

#### *Uruguay*

One of the achievements of women in the Americas this last year was the law concerning women's civil rights passed by the General Assembly of Uruguay on September 11. This is considered one of the most liberal on the American continent. The passage of the law is considered to be chiefly due to Señora Sofía A. V. de Demichelli, a Senator and also delegate of Uruguay on the Inter-American Commission of Women. The bill was sponsored in the Chamber of Deputies by Señorita Magdalena Antonelli Moreno.

Some important articles of the law are:

#### CIVIL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

ARTICLE 1. Men and women have equal civil rights.

ARTICLE 2. A married woman can freely administer and dispose of her own property, of its increment, of the product of her activities, and of all properties that she may acquire, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 5 of this law.

If the marital association is dissolved, the amount of the community property acquired after marriage shall be equally divided between husband and wife, or their respective heirs.

ARTICLE 4. The creditors of one spouse may

claim payment only from his or her property and from the community property which he or she administers according to law or to the pre-marital agreement (Article 1938 of the Civil Code).

ARTICLE 5. Real property acquired as community property in the name of one spouse or both cannot be transferred or made the subject of any lien without the expressed agreement of both husband and wife. Similar agreement must be given in the case of transfer of a business, agricultural, stock-raising, or industrial enterprise, if it is part of the community property.

ARTICLE 6. At any time, either husband or wife or both together may request, without stating a reason, the dissolution and liquidation of the marital association.

ARTICLE 9. The conjugal domicile shall be fixed by agreement between husband and wife.

ARTICLE 10. Both husband and wife shall contribute to the expense of the home in proportion to their means.

ARTICLE 11. Guardianship of children shall be exercised by husband and wife together unless limited or suspended by judicial action.

ARTICLE 12. When minor children have property, husband and wife shall decide which of them shall administer this property, except in the cases provided for in the Civil Code.

ARTICLE 13. Either husband or wife can request action by the judge of the Juvenile Court to prevent or correct acts or proceedings on the part of the other considered prejudicial to the person or property of a minor child, in accordance

with the provision of Articles 1943 et seq. of the Children's Code.

ARTICLE 14. The provisions of the foregoing articles also apply to illegitimate children recognized by the father and mother and to cases of adoption and legitimation by adoption, effected by both husband and wife.

ARTICLE 15. A widow or divorced woman who remarries shall keep all rights of guardianship entrusted to her as well as the administration of the property involved, which she shall carry on with entire independence of her new husband. In all circumstances the provisions of Article 113 of the Civil Code shall apply.

ARTICLE 16. There shall be created in the General Register of Attachments and Judgments a section in which the following shall be noted:

- a. Pre-marital agreements.
- b. Decisions dissolving the marital association.
- c. Agreements by parents on the administration of property of minor children and any other legal matters connected therewith.

ARTICLE 18. When husband and wife cannot agree on a decision required by the provisions of Articles 11 et seq. of this law, either of them may take the matter before the courts.

Señorita Esmeralda Escuder, teacher of music appreciation and phoniatics, has a fellowship to study in her field at Martin Hall Institute, Rhode Island. She had previously been sent to study in Berlin and Paris by the Commission of Elementary and Normal Education.

### *Cuba*

WOMEN continue to play an important part in public life, as may be seen by the following instances.

The Chairman of the National Social Welfare Board is a woman, Dr. Dolores Machín de Upman. Two members are Señora María Montalvo de Soto Navarro and Señora Elena Mederos de González, the latter delegate of Cuba to the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Señorita Elena Pujals is the architect in charge of plans for a home that will house 150 children, a home for the aged, and two day nurseries. Miss Mary Labarce,

Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, went to Cuba by request to offer suggestions for these buildings.

The coveted Justo de Lara prize, awarded annually to a journalist, was won this year by Señorita Mirta Aguirre, a well-known poet and newspaper woman.

On the faculty of the Catholic University of Santo Tomás de Villanueva are Doctors Teresa Ganaldo de Cruz, Mercedes García Tudurí, and Rosaura García Tudurí.

### *Dominican Republic*

The Graduate Nurses' Association of the Dominican Red Cross conferred on Señorita Minerva Bernardino, Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, a certificate of honorary membership. In extending thanks for this courtesy Señorita Bernardino gave an address discussing some of today's vital social problems.

Señorita Edna Garrido of Ciudad Trujillo has arrived in the United States to study folklore at the University of North Carolina during the academic year 1946-1947. She has collected a large amount of folklore material in her own country.

### *United States*

Miss Frieda S. Miller, Director of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, was named as Substitute Delegate, also as adviser, to the United States delegation to the twenty-ninth session of the International Labor Conference in September in Montreal. Miss Mary M. Cannon, Chief, International Division, Women's Bureau, was one of the two secretaries to the United States delegation.

Miss Frances Perkins, formerly Secretary of Labor, was appointed by President Truman to membership on the Civil Service Commission. As one of the three Civil Service Commissioners, she will be the only woman in the Administration who will report directly to the President.

# Pan American News

## *Message of the President of Mexico*

ON September 1, 1946, President Ávila Camacho delivered before the Mexican Congress his last annual report. At that time the President's six-year term had only three more months to go and the message therefore summarized the Administration's activities and accomplishments for the entire period as well as for the year ending August 31, 1946. The general picture was one of national unity and progress achieved in the face of an unprecedented world struggle that inevitably had its effect on Mexico. "In so terrible a time," said the President, "it was not enough to endure. It was necessary to improve ourselves while we endured." That the nation did better itself during the past six years, despite wartime difficulties, was shown by the President's unvarnished account of progress in many fields. Space limitations prevent the BULLETIN from outlining the activities of all government departments and agencies, but some of them are summarized herewith.

**TREASURY AND NATIONAL ECONOMY.**—Annual federal income during the last six years increased from 668 million pesos to 1,500 million and expenditures from 705 million to 1,202 million. The budgets for national defense and the Navy increased from 133 million pesos in 1941 to 246 million in 1945, and budget allocations for the Departments of Education, Health and Welfare, and Indian Affairs, of obvious social importance, were doubled during the six years. Annually, however, the national budget was balanced.

The President reported that the upward trend of the Bank of Mexico's gold reserve

and exchange holdings, uninterrupted since 1942, finally reached its peak in February 1946 and then began to decrease. This was compensated in part by Export-Import Bank loans. Exchange resources of the Central Bank amounted to more than 300 million dollars at the time of the President's message and when to this amount was added the unused portion of long-term foreign credits, the holdings of the country were considered sufficient to support its monetary position. In fact, the reserve and exchange, in relation to the circulating medium—currency, coin, and sight deposits—amounted to more than 30 percent, a sign of monetary stability.

The cause of the decreased reserve, the President explained, was the greater volume of imports, which were worth 1,348 million pesos in 1944, 1,603 million in 1945, and in 1946 were expected to increase some 70 percent over the preceding year. Although foodstuffs formed a considerable part of these imports, Mexico more lately has been receiving appreciable quantities of equipment, machinery, and parts. The tourist trade and the price of silver (raised in September 1945 to 71.11 cents an ounce and increased again in August 1946 to 90.5 cents an ounce), combined with a higher price for most of Mexico's export articles, were expected by the President to compensate in great part for the increased imports. The decrease in the reserve was accompanied by a certain decrease in the circulating medium. As of August 3, 1946, a decrease of 231 million pesos was evident, compared with the figures of December 31, 1945.

In an effort to stabilize both the mone-

tary and the price situation, fiscal authorities tried to avoid any undue expansion of credit. Bank of Mexico loans and investments in securities increased, however, during 1945-46, the former by 477 million pesos and the latter by 150 million pesos, despite the fact that public security holdings decreased by almost 20 million. The Government wished at all times to have adequate credit made available to productive enterprises, and at the time of the President's message the Bank of Mexico was proposing to reduce interest rates on rediscounts of agricultural loans. As for new industries, the Administration's policy was to encourage the banking system to lend its support to projects that would definitely benefit the country's economy.

In June 1946 the Government authorized the Bank of Mexico to equalize the domestic price of gold with the export price, in order to end the then current contraband gold buying and selling. The measure proved effective and purchases of gold for speculative purposes diminished.

As for the national debt, the President announced with satisfaction that at the close of his Administration, the Treasury would owe no money to the Bank of Mexico and furthermore, that at least 85 million pesos in public works bonds would be redeemed. He also mentioned the conclusion of the railway debt agreement, similar in plan to the 1942 direct debt agreement (see BULLETIN, August 1943 and June 1946). Domestic bond issues authorized during 1945-46 for highways, the electric industry, ports, and other purposes totaled 205 million pesos. Service on the portion issued, as well as on earlier bonds, which in 1945-46 required the very considerable sum of 233.7 million pesos from the year's budget, was currently paid. Thus, with service and amortization on the entire national public debt up to

date, the credit of the nation was re-established on a solid basis.

The *Nacional Financiera*, government financing agency, was reorganized in December 1940 to enable it more effectively to promote and give financial aid to production enterprises, especially those not especially attractive to private investors. This agency secured some 63 million dollars in credits from the Export-Import Bank and used the money for the acquisition of industrial machinery, without dipping into the dollar reserves of the Bank of Mexico, and thus enabling the Government to carry on certain industrial projects of national interest such as electrification and the rehabilitation of the railways and of *Petróleos Mexicanos*, the government oil industry. The country's vigorous industrial progress was reflected in the value of industrial production, which reached 4,802 million pesos during the year 1944; in the number of people employed in industry, 512,000; in wages paid, more than 1,000 million pesos; and in investments, which reached 3,453 million pesos. Investments in capital goods during the sexennium rose to approximately 2,538 million pesos.

The termination of the armed conflict did not, unfortunately, halt the rising trend in the cost of living, since its causes—monetary and credit expansion, speculation, transportation difficulties, the problems of imports and increased production, etc.—were further complicated by necessary postwar adjustments. The general price index, which in 1945 was 199.6, reached 232.6 in June 1946 (1939 prices being used as the basic index of 100). Nonetheless, to avoid as far as possible the harm resulting from this trend, the Government made every effort to expand national production and to control the production and distribution of numerous articles of prime necessity. A government concern,

the *Nacional Distribuidora y Reguladora* (National Distributing and Regulating Agency) was created in June 1941 to act marginally in the market to counteract high food prices. The agency functioned through 2,500 stores in the capital and other population centers, which sold to consumers at less than cost price foodstuffs subsidized by the Government, such as corn, flour, rice, beans, and lard. Since its creation the agency's total sales amounted to 1,725 million pesos, and to cover the difference between this amount and the cost price of the articles, the Government expended more than 100 million pesos.

**PETRÓLEOS MEXICANOS.**—The level of operations of the government-owned petroleum industry rose considerably in the last year, said the President. At a total expenditure of 30 million pesos exploration groups were increased and 51 wells with a potential daily production of 31,000 barrels were drilled. A conservative estimate placed the nation's oil reserves at 870 million barrels. Actual production rose from 38 million barrels in the preceding year to 45 million. Federal petroleum tax collections rose from 98 million pesos to 127 million, and wages and benefits for oil workers amounted to 181 million pesos. The industry, affirmed the President, has passed the decisive stage during the last six years and in general can be said to have surmounted the difficulties that followed nationalization in 1938 and to be securely started along a frankly optimistic path.

Installments on the oil expropriation debt, which at the time of the agreement in 1942 amounted to almost 27,982,000 pesos, have been regularly met, and the slightly less than 8,172,000 pesos still outstanding was expected to be paid in full before the end of the presidential term November 30, 1946.

**AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN AFFAIRS.**—

Agricultural activities were directed toward obtaining an increase in the area under cultivation and in production. A total area of 16,776,000 acres was cultivated in 1946, the largest ever recorded. In spite of the severe 1945 drought, corn, the principal crop, reached a yield of 2,700,000 tons, sufficient to meet domestic requirements. Wheat did not do so well, production having been 47 percent of requirements.

Since exports of agricultural products in 1945 were valued at approximately 743 million pesos and imports of such products were worth only 396 million, Mexican agriculture contributed 347 million pesos to the credit side of the nation's trade ledger.

The National Bank of Agricultural Credit conducted loan operations in 1945-46 with 359 local credit groups, 35 more than in the preceding year, and with 158 individuals, its total loans having amounted to 26 million pesos. The National Bank of Ejidal Credit organized 102 credit groups and its loans totaled 8.8 million pesos. The working capital of the two banks was increased by the Government in the sum of 20 million and 5 million pesos, respectively.

"The redistribution of rural property cannot yet be considered as terminated," said the President, and therefore the labors of the Agrarian Department were centered throughout the Administration on the granting and restoring of lands and waters and the protection of ejido, small property, and grazing rights. Land restorations and grants during the six years totaled some 1,371,000 acres, which benefited approximately 155,000 campesinos; water rights granted comprised a volume of approximately 25,316 million cubic feet, sufficient to irrigate 326,000 acres. In 1942 the standard land grant unit of approximately 10 to 20 acres, depending

upon whether the land is irrigated or not, was raised to 15 to 30 acres. The average land parcel is now 17 acres for farming purposes and 76 acres for pasture. During the sexennium 11,500 certificates of indefeasibility were issued covering 2,841,700 acres, and 350 similar certificates for grazing lands with a total area of 8,648,650 acres.

**EDUCATION.**—From the standpoint of true national progress, one of the outstanding tasks undertaken by President Ávila Camacho was the campaign against illiteracy. Since the campaign got under way early in 1945, the 69,880 instruction centers set up throughout the nation gave instruction to approximately 1,440,800 persons, of whom 708,650 successfully completed their reading and writing courses, while the remaining 732,150 were awaiting their examinations.

The budget for the Department of Public Education, which in 1940 was 78,680,000 pesos, rose to 207.9 million in 1946, a larger amount than was allocated to any other government department, with the exception of the Department of Agriculture whose budget included special funds for the National Irrigation Commission. To the school construction program the Federal Government contributed 30 million pesos, of which 23,660,000 pesos were allocated in 1945 for the cost of 3 kindergartens, 558 primary and 9 secondary schools, and 18 trade or other special schools constructed in cooperation with states and territories. The remainder, together with 2,600,000 pesos donated by *Petróleos Mexicanos*, was spent for school construction in the Federal District. Private gifts to the school building program amounted to 20,038,000 pesos, now being spent on the new normal school.

Federal public primary schools of the nation had a total enrollment of 1,185,000

in 1940; in 1946 the figure was 1,849,000, to which must be added 110,000 attending private schools and approximately a million in state and municipal schools. Registration in secondary schools rose in the same period from 31,000 to 48,000. The number of teachers employed by the Department of Public Education in 1940 was 31,300 and in 1946, 45,400. In January 1946, 2,700 teachers, and in August 2,700 more, received their certificates from the Teachers' Training Institute.

General revisions were made during the six years in the educational plan to obtain improved coordination between primary schools and secondary, college preparatory, and vocational schools. Normal school programs were also amended, rural normal courses being increased from 4 to 6 years, and special schools were established to train teachers for subnormal, blind, deaf, and delinquent children.

As for higher education, government subventions in 1945-46 to the *Colegio Nacional* (a non-profit cultural, study, and research organization established under official patronage in 1940 by a group of distinguished intellectuals) and to the National University of Mexico amounted to 193,000 and 6,225,000 pesos, respectively. New buildings, ready for occupancy late in 1946, were provided in Mexico City for the Superior Normal School and the normal schools for young men and women.

The goal of education in rural areas was to improve rural economy, and instruction in both elementary and secondary schools was planned accordingly. School land parcels were made available to as many primary schools as possible, and close to half a million pesos were spent for new mechanical equipment for the Practical Agricultural Schools. The country has 12 schools of this type, which are yielding more than 400,000 pesos<sup>1</sup> annually, on



which the net profit is more than 120,000 pesos. The scope of rural adult education was also broadened considerably, particularly through correspondence courses on farm machinery, parasitology, stock raising, food preservation, and similar subjects.

Another step taken by the outgoing Administration, aimed at benefiting rural areas by keeping farm boys on the farm, was the establishment of four colonies, totaling approximately 7,200 acres, where students who complete their agricultural studies may receive adequate land grants to carry on their work.

Fifty-two new volumes of the pocket-size Popular Encyclopedic Library series, published by the Department of Public Education, were issued during 1945-46, one each week. These, added to the 68 volumes previously issued, made 120 volumes since the first one appeared in May 1944. Twenty-five thousand copies of each were printed and distributed, through bookshops at 25 centavos a copy or free to schools and libraries through the Department of Education, making now a total distribution of 3 million of these carefully selected little books.

**SOCIAL SECURITY, WELFARE, AND LABOR**—Mexico's social security plan is now in operation in the Federal District, Puebla, Monterrey, and Guadalajara, and 34,000 employers, 311,000 workers, and 452,000 beneficiaries are inscribed. Through its 19 clinics, 11 sanitariums, 129 consultation centers, 39 pharmacies, and 28 clinical and radiological laboratories, the Social Security Institute supplied 6,211,000 medical consultations and services. Since its organization in January 1944, the Institute's income has totaled 126.5 million pesos, its expenditures 51.3 million, and actuarial and other reserves amounting to 75.2 million pesos have been established.

One of the Administration's major ac-

complishments from the viewpoint of efficiency and effective operation was the consolidation of the Department of Public Health with the Department of Public Welfare. This enabled the Government to formulate a unified policy of action in health and social assistance that would give due weight to the duty of the State in caring for needy persons but would avoid the encouragement of social parasites.

The outgoing Administration's six years witnessed the construction and entrance into service of 8 regional and 3 central hospitals, a number of health, maternity, social service, and food distribution centers, and 7 special hospitals—Children's, Cardiology, Tuberculosis, Nutrition, Mal de Pinto, Mental, and Chronic Diseases. Construction of 22 additional regional and central hospitals was well advanced, and so also was work on new special hospitals for the treatment of emergency cases, infectious diseases, gastroenteritis, and tuberculosis, while construction was soon to begin on the Central Surgical Hospital and the National Institutes of Cancer, Odontology, and Ophthalmology.

In Mexico City's Medical Center, the Children's Hospital during the past year gave consultative services in 67,500 cases and treated 5,400 hospitalized children. The National Institute of Cardiology handled 12,000 cases, its 120 beds being constantly occupied. Progress was made in national campaigns against venereal disease, cancer, and tuberculosis. With reference to the latter, 706,000 pesos were collected from the sale of special tuberculosis stamps. A systematic plan was put into effect for chest examinations in the Federal District and in the northern frontier areas where incidence of the disease has been greatest, and dispensaries were opened in a number of northern population centers.

New labor legislation enacted during the past six years included the law requiring emergency wage increases of 5 to 30 percent to compensate for the higher cost of living, the law on collective labor contracts, and an amendment to the Federal Labor Law regarding the right to strike. The latter did not withdraw the right to strike but was framed to reduce the negative social effects of that right.

Labor disputes were generally settled promptly and satisfactorily through the Federal Board of Conciliation and Arbitration. On Mexico's entrance into the war in June 1942 representatives of labor organizations signed a pact of unity, established a National Labor Council, and throughout the war demonstrated their patriotic desire to collaborate with the Government during the emergency.

CLOSING REMARKS.—To terminate his final message, President Ávila Camacho presented an eloquent exposition of the democratic doctrine and the basic concepts of the Mexican Revolution as he himself interpreted them and as his Administration has endeavored to put them into practice. With clear thought and deeply humanistic feeling, he paid tribute to the Mexican people for their attitude and constructive force in forming a stronger, more united, and essentially Mexican citizenry during the difficult war period, for their loyalty in accepting the responsibilities of war, and for their cooperation in the recovery and reconstruction now demanded by the peace.—D. M. T.

### *Guardian angel of Brazilian lepers*<sup>1</sup>

Ten years ago Senhora Eunice Weaver of Rio de Janeiro and her North American husband, Anderson Weaver, took a round-

the-world tour during which they studied the leper institutions of the Philippine Islands, China, Japan, Molokai, and India. On returning to Brazil early in the 1930's, Senhora Weaver launched a nation-wide campaign to educate the people to the urgent need of curbing the spread of leprosy.

In 1935 she obtained the Federal Administration's annual contribution for the anti-leprosy fight, and proceeded to raise over twice that amount by public subscription. Since then an estimated 15,000,000 dollars have been spent by private organizations and the Government to further the work.

Today, thanks largely to the untiring work of this zealous woman, thousands of lepers who once wandered across Brazil's back country as hungry ragged outcasts, live in modern towns and cities of their own. These towns are complete with theaters, libraries, and social clubs, and their inhabitants farm, nurse, teach, run grocery and clothing stores, work in furniture and shoe factories, and build their own streets and houses. And this is not all. More than 6,000 have been pronounced cured and have returned to normal life outside the colonies.

Over 2,000 healthy children of leprous parents are being cared for in special boarding schools in every Brazilian state. About 2,000 others have already graduated from these schools. A large number of such children have been adopted by childless Brazilian couples, which reflects the changed attitude of the people toward leprosy.

Eight years after Senhora Weaver began her campaign, the delegates of an International Leprosy Conference held in Cairo named Brazil the nation that had made the most encouraging progress in the control of the disease.

Mrs. Weaver is assisted by an army of

<sup>1</sup> Information from "A Brazilian Woman Fights Leprosy", *Brazil*, August 1946.

7,000 volunteer workers—members of the Brazilian Federation of Societies for the Assistance of Lepers. The number of groups in this Federation grew in the ten years from five to 150. The members raise funds to combat leprosy, provide churches and recreational facilities in the Government colonies, and re-establish cured lepers in trades or business in their home towns. In addition, they work in the *educandarios* or children's homes, and see that the families of leprosy victims are cared for.

Senhora Weaver recently visited the United States and studied the operations and fund-raising activities of the National Tuberculosis Association, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, the American Association for the Prevention of Blindness, and the American Leprosy Foundation.

Venezuela, Peru, and Bolivia have invited her to study the conditions of lepers in those countries. She recently helped set up a Paraguayan society for aid to lepers, and was awarded the Order of Merit by the President for her efforts there.

Her interests are not confined to the leprosy problem, but include the improvement of all welfare work throughout the American Republics through closer ties among the social agencies in the different countries and more exchange of ideas in the solution of social problems.

### *Exploration for oil in Panama*

The Republic of Panama will soon discover whether the existence of oil in the country is a myth or a reality, for on September 3, 1946, the National Assembly unanimously approved a contract signed by President Jiménez with the Sinclair Panama Oil Corporation granting the Corporation a twenty-year concession to

explore for and produce oil in an area of about 17,900,000 acres. The company is required to pay \$25,000 yearly for each of the three years of the exploration period, which must begin 90 days after the effective date of the contract. Drilling operations must begin within six months following expiration of the three years; rentals will thereafter be paid on acreage retained for development. All lands not retained will be excluded from the concession.

A royalty payment of 16½ percent will be made to the Republic on the gross production of crude oil and natural gas. In cases in which private landowners acquired subsoil rights prior to the effective date of the Constitution, under which the subsoil belongs to the nation, the landowners are entitled to one-third of the royalty.

The concession also includes the right to refine, manufacture, transport, and market petroleum products in the Republic, the Panamanian Government to receive 25 percent of the net profits from these undertakings. The company will establish a program for the training of Panamanian personnel for a ten-year period, and will employ the largest possible number of Panamanian citizens in its operation.

### *National Arts and Sciences Awards in Mexico*

On September 11, 1946, the renowned artist José Clemente Orozco received the annual National Arts and Sciences Award of the Government of Mexico for his paintings in the Chapel of the Hospital of Jesus in Mexico City. The "Secretary of Education" award in architecture was given to Enrique de la Mora and M. Pavón; in sculpture, to Luis Ortiz Monasterio; and in prints, to Leopoldo Méndez.

So impressive was the showing of paintings, attesting to the present-day vitality of Mexican art and to the enthusiasm of the contributors, that the Committee found it necessary to request the increase by four of the number of awards in that field. The Secretary of Education approved, and awards were made for the works presented by Dr. Atl, Julio Castellanos, Francisco Goitia, and Frida Kahlo.

### *Tin contract between United States and Bolivia*

The United States Government and Bolivian mine owners signed on August 16, 1946, an agreement for the purchase of tin at a basic rate of 62½ cents a pound. The agreement contains two bonus clauses which will become effective when the annual production reaches 17,600 tons. The bonus is one cent a pound from January 1 to June 30 and three cents a pound from July 1 to the end of the year. Under last year's contract the United States obtained 26,000 tons of tin concentrates and is expected to obtain 18,000 tons of tin this year under the new agreement. Tin ores and concentrates are refined at the Texas City smelter.

### *We see by the papers that—*

- Individuals building homes in the Republic of *Panama* may now borrow up to \$7,500 at a 5 percent interest rate from the government-owned Banco de Urbanización y Rehabilitación. The Board of Directors approves loans up to 90 percent of the value of the guaranty, which comprises the first loan on the house. Loans on houses exceeding \$12,500 are not made.
- The Children's Library in *São Paulo* celebrated its tenth anniversary with various exercises, including a talk by the

first boy to register when the library was opened. Most of the children who frequent it belong to workers' families, who find books to help them in their studies as well as others to give them entertainment. Educational motion pictures, a paper, talks, trips to factories, and chess games are part of the library's life, in which an organization of the young patrons is influential.

- A semi-annual publication called *Afro-américa* is printed in *Mexico* for the Institute of Afro-American Studies and distributed by the Fondo de Cultura Económica. Its editorial board consists of the following: Melville J. Herskovits (United States), Alain Locke (United States), Fernando Ortiz (Cuba), Richard Pattee (Puerto Rico), Jean Price-Mars (Haiti), Arthur Ramos (Brazil), and Jorge A. Vivó (Mexico). The review is now in its second year.

- An ex-gunnery Army officer and an ex-Navy flier, searching for an independent postwar career, pooled their GI loans and became orchid exporters in *Colombia*, CBS reported recently. After the young men received their discharges, they canvassed orchid wholesalers along the east coast and found many interested in receiving more orchids from South America. The two set off for Colombia, to them a new country. Soon they had won exclusive export rights from two of the biggest orchid growers. An air freight line, also run by American veterans, flies their exports for them. Packed in tiny glass bottles glued to cardboard boxes, the orchids leave Colombia on Monday and arrive at La Guardia Field, New York, the following day. The business is no longer limited to orchids, but is expanding to other exotic products. The veterans consider their GI loan well invested, both in business and in friendship.

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